

## EXPORT OF COAL

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Coal is under Open General Licence (OGL) list. India exports coal to the neighbouring countries to meet their demand of coal. The traditional buyers of Indian coal are Nepal, Bangladesh and Bhutan. Export to Nepal and Bhutan is done in rupee exchange as per the protocol between the two countries and with Bangladesh it is done in US Dollar. Export of coal to the neighbouring countries was earlier canalised through the Mineral and Metal trading Corporation, but for the last few years it has been decanalised. Export of coal by CIL is made through tender route. The quantum of coal exported by CIL during 2002-03 to the neighbouring countries was 12,650 tonnes. During 2003-2004 the quantity of coal exported by CIL was 35,831 tonnes (Provisional).

### **IMPORT OF COAL**

As per the present Import policy, coal can be freely imported (under Open General Licence) by the consumers themselves considering their needs and exercising their own commercial judgments.

Coking coal is being imported by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and other Steel sector manufacturing mainly to bridge the gap between the requirement and indigenous availability and to improve the quality of overall blend for technological reasons. Coal based power plants, cement plants, captive power plants, sponge iron plants, industrial consumers and coal traders are importing non-coking coal on consideration of transport logistic and commercial prudence as well as against export entitlements. Coke is imported mainly by Pig-Iron manufacturers and Iron & Steel sector consumers using mini-blast furnace.

Details of import of coal and products during the last five years(as reported by Coal Controller's Organization) as under:

(in million tonnes)

Coal	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-2005*
Coking Coal	10.99	11.06	11.11	12.95	12.00	14.57
Non-coking Coal	8.71	9.87	9.44	10.31	9.50	11.56
Coke	2.41	2.42	2.28	2.25	2.00	2.51
Total Import	22.11	23.35	22.83	25.51	23.50	28.64

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\* Provisional and estimated.

The current duty on imported coal as amended on 28.2.2004 is as under:-

Type of coal	Import Duty
Coking Coal Having upto 12% ash	0%
Coal Having ash 12% and more	5%
Coke	5%
Non-Coking Coal	5%

Note: With effect from 9.1.2004 the Central Government has withdrawn the Special Additional Duty.