

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1399
ANSWERED ON 13.03.2023

DOMESTIC PRODUCTION OF REFINED COPPER

1399. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that closure of Tuticorin smelter plant has affected the domestic production of refined copper;
- (b) if so, details thereof with the likely repercussion on country's copper industry;
- (c) whether there is upward pressure on the import of copper after the closure of Tuticorin copper plant; and
- (d) if so, details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINES, COAL AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)

(a) to (d): The closure of the Tuticorin smelter plant of Vedanta in Tamil Nadu has affected the domestic production of refined copper. The plant is closed since May, 2018 on order of Govt. of Tamil Nadu. The details of production and import of refined copper since 2017-2018 to 2021-2022 are as under:

Product	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Refined Copper Production (in lakh tonne)	8.42	4.53	4.08	3.63	4.85
Import of refined copper (in lakh tonne)	0.4722	0.9571	1.5490	1.5672	1.3918
