

(c) Coal mining in Vishnupuri mine No. 2 resumed in another district from 22.5.2008 at an average rate of production of 60-80 tonnes per day. Production from the panel where accident took place resumed its operation from 3.6.2008 at an average rate of production of 50-60 tonnes per day.

(d) The reasons for the accident and the extent of losses are as under :-

- (i) Roof fall on account of hidden slip in the overlying strata.
- (ii) The immediate roof was water charged with coarsed grained sand stone.
- (iii) There was a loss of production to the extent of 1650 tonnes during the period the mine was partially affected.

Prime facie, the following persons have been held responsible for the accident on the basis of the interim inquiry by Internal Safety Organisation (ISO) of the Coal Company :-

- (i) Shri S.B. Yadav, Sub Area Manager
- (ii) Shri V.P. Ghattuwar, Manager
- (iii) Shri Nirmal Kumar, Under Manager
- (iv) Shri M.R. Ansari, Shift Overman
- (v) Shri Tapas Pal, Mining Sirdar

(e) To avoid recurrence of such incidents, The following measures have been taken :-

1. Roof support with resin bolting has already been started
2. Reframing of Systematic Support Rules (SSR) in the mine after fresh determination of Rock Mass Rating and its implementation.
3. Use of long roof bolts (1.65 M) with full column resin
4. Re-training of frontline supervisors and support crew in roof bolting
5. Regular anchorage testing for checking effectiveness of supports installed
6. Strengthening of supervision of mining activities including roof support
7. Increased frequency of mine inspection by mine officials and DGMS officials.

#### **Pilferage of coal**

1092. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the rampant pilferage of coal from the mines;
- (b) if so, the steps being taken to prevent such pilferages; and

(c) the details of the public distribution system for fuel coal to the people in the neighbouring areas of coal mines in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): (a) Pilferage/theft of coal is carried out stealthily and clandestinely from siding coal stock, railway rakes, loaded tripping trucks/dumpers etc.

(b) Law and Order is a State subject, hence primarily; it is the responsibility of the State/District administration to take necessary deterrent action to stop/curb pilferage/theft of coal. However, coal companies have taken the following steps to check theft/pilferage of coal:

1. Collection of intelligence reports about illegal coal depots and illegal movement of coal and informing district authorities of the same for taking preventive action/filing of FIR.
2. Installation of check posts at vulnerable points to check transport documents.
3. Construction of watch towers and providing lighting arrangements around the coal stacking area.
4. Erection of barbed wire wall fencing around pithead depots, static mining including deployment of armed guards during the nighthours.
5. Escorting of loaded rakes up to railway weigh bridges by armed guards and joint patrolling with Railway Protection Force (RPF) in the railways track which are prone to wagon looting.
6. Sealing of illegal mining spots.
7. Stringent action against transport vehicles caught in the act of theft or pilferage.
8. Engagement of lady security guards for preventing women and children indulging in the theft/pilferage of coal, strengthening of the security discipline by reassessing the requirement of security personnel, horizontal movement of executives with aptitude for security work and inducting qualified security personnel at junior, middle and senior level.
9. Training of existing security personnel refresher training of CISF personnel and basic training of new recruits in security discipline for strengthening the security setup.
10. The coal companies maintain close liaison with the State authorities.

(c) As per the New Coal Distribution Policy 2007, there is no provision of public distribution system for fuel coal to the people in the neighbouring areas of coal mines. However, in order to meet the genuine requirement of the units in small and medium sector like smokeless fuel, brick kiln, coke oven units etc. on a transparent and scientific basis and distribute coal to them accordingly, a quantity of 8 million tonnes of coal annually has been earmarked. This quantity is allocated for distribution to those units/consumers in small and medium sector whose requirement is less than 4200 tonnes per annum and are otherwise not having any access to purchase coal or conclude Fuel Supply Agreement for coal supply with coal companies. The earmarked quantity is distributed through agencies notified by the State Governments.

#### **National policy of coal for all sectors**

†1093. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.