

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps/measures taken/being taken by Government to make up the loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) to (c) The provisions of New Coal Distribution Policy of October, 2007 provides for sale of coal through, *inter-alia*, e-auction. During 2011-12, the subsidiary companies of CIL have earned Rs. 5600 crores more than the notified price of coal, by selling coal through e-auction. As the Government has not taken any decision to discontinue e-auction of coal, the question of the coal companies incurring any loss on this account would not arise. It is, however, stated that the purpose of sale of coal under e-auction is basically to provide access to coal for such consumers who are not able to source coal through the available institutional mechanisms for reasons like seasonality of coal requirement, limited requirement of coal not warranting long term linkage etc. Sale of coal under e-auction also provides access to consumers to procure coal of their choice and any incremental amount earned over the notified price, through e-auction, is incidental.

#### **Prevention of thefts from coal mines**

2327. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of COAL be please to state:

- (a) the estimated amount of coal lost due to pilferage and thefts;
- (b) the steps taken to prevent thefts of coal from the mines; and
- (c) what is the impact of the efforts made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) It is not possible to specify the exact quantum of coal stolen and losses incurred on account of theft/pilferage of coal.

However, as per raids conducted by security personnel as well as joint raids with the law and order authorities of the concerned State Government, the quantity of coal recovered and its approximate value during 2010-11 and 2011-12 are as under:

Company	2011-12		2010-11	
	Qty.	Approx.	Qty.	Approx.
	Recovered (Te)	Value (Rs. Lakh)	Recovered (Te)	Value (Rs. Lakh)
Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (ECL)	5648.00	112.96	2300.00	46.00
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. (BCCL)	8539.32	191.59	9645.18	191.50
Central Coalfields Ltd. (CCL)	488.73	6.20	8477.85	86.01
Northern Coalfields Ltd. (NCL)	9.00	0.55	0	0
Western Coalfields Ltd. (WCL)	109.81	1.96	169.63	2.72
South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (SECL)	64.11	2.45	8.50	0.16
Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd. (MCL)	59.60	0.60	36.50	0.37
North Eastern Coalfields (NEC)	0.00	0.00	22.38	0.95
TOTAL	14918.57	316.31	20660.04	327.7

(b) and (c) Following measures have been taken by the coal companies to prevent pilferage/theft of coal:

- (i) Check posts have been established at entry/exit points where all coal laden vehicles are physically checked.
- (ii) Security at coal dumps are improved by wall fencing, proper illumination and round the clock guarding.
- (iii) Regular patrolling is conducted in and around the mine including overburden dumps.
- (iv) Armed Guards have been deployed at Railway sidings.
- (v) Joint patrolling with local police is also being carried out in some areas.
- (vi) Surprise checks/raids are conducted by flying squads of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)/security department.
- (vii) Security squads have been introduced to check transportation of coal enroute to Railway Siding.

- (viii) Surprise re-weighment of coal laden trucks is done, at weighbridges.
- (ix) Escorting of coal rakes in coordination with RPF up-to weighbridge, is arranged in pilferage prone areas.
- (x) Challans for coal transportation by trucks outside the district are issued after fixing hologram and putting signatures of authorized officials of CISF to check pilferage.
- (xi) Regular FIRs are lodged by the Management of the collieries and CISF with local Police Station against the pilferage/theft of coal.
- (xii) Inter-action and liaison with District officials at regular intervals. As such the State Governments have a critical role in stopping/curbing such thefts.

#### **Underground and open cast mining**

2328. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) how many underground mines are running in the Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (ECL);
- (b) why the number is decreasing day by day;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to run only open cast projects in ECL; and
- (d) if so, details therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) Eighty two (82) underground mines are in operation in Easter Coalfields Ltd. (ECL).

- (b) The underground mines are decreasing due to exhaustion of reserves, thinning of coal seam, occurrence of fire, etc.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

#### **Pensionary Benefits in CIL**

2329. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state: