

For implementation of the above scheme twenty six mines have been identified in first phase of implementation. An assiduous survey was carried out for identification of discharge location, surplus mine water discharged and existing supply facilities available.

Installation of 28 pressure filters having total installed capacity of 4.60 MGD of mine water treatment are envisaged to be completed by this year.

(d) Yes, Sir. It is planned to treat mine water for human consumption. Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research (CIMFR)-CSIR has been assigned with the job of replicating its already commissioned technology of mine water reclamation in P.B Area for conversion of mine water to R.O. drinking water, in respect of other mining areas.

### **Prevention of coal theft**

2303. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one fifth of total annual production of coal in India is stolen;

(b) if so, the details of estimated cost of coal stolen during the last three years, year-wise along with the reasons therefor; and

(c) the fresh steps taken by the Government to prevent theft of coal and also to improve the quality of coal sold by the Coal India Limited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Theft/pilferage of coal, if any, is carried out stealthily and clandestinely. As such, it is not possible to specify the exact quantum of coal stolen and loss of revenue on account of theft/pilferage of coal. As per the information received from Coal India Limited (CIL), the production of coal, quantity of coal recovered in raids conducted by the security personnel as well as joint raids with the law and order authorities of the State Governments concerned and its approximate value, during the last three years, year-wise, is given as under:-

Year	Production (Million Tonnes)	Qty. recovered (Million Tonnes)	Approximate value (₹ in lakh)
2015-16	538.754	0.02042889	937.11
2014-15	494.238	0.01962316	711.58
2013-14	462.422	0.01684082	599.83

(c) Law and Order is a State subject and hence, primarily, it is the responsibility of State/District Administration to take deterrent action to stop/curb theft/pilferage of coal. The coal companies are working in close coordination with the State/local administration and taken several measures to prevent theft of coal. The measures taken by the coal companies to check theft/pilferage of coal include:

- (i) Check posts have been established at entry/exit points where all coal loaded vehicles are physically checked.
- (ii) Technology initiatives like Global Positioning System(GPS)/General Packet Radio Service(GPRS)/Closed Circuit Televisions (CCTVs) and electronic weigh-bridges have been installed to check the problem of theft/pilferage at mines, sidings and transportation.
- (iii) Security at coal dumps has been improved by wall fencing, proper illumination and guarding round the clock.
- (iv) Concrete walls have been erected on the mouth of the abandoned mines to prevent access and illegal activities in these areas.
- (v) Regular raids/checks being conducted by security personnel and static security pickets including armed guards during the night hours are deployed at pithead depots.
- (vi) Surprise raids/checks being conducted jointly by security personnel and law and order authorities of the State Government concerned.
- (vii) Collection of intelligence reports about illegal coal depots and illegal movement of coal and informing district authorities of the same for taking preventive action.
- (viii) Installation of check posts at vulnerable points to check transport documents.
- (ix) Maintaining close coordination with the State/Local Authorities.
- (x) Regular patrolling is conducted in and around the mine including overburden dumps.
- (xi) Armed guards have been deployed at railway sidings.
- (xii) Challans for coal transportation by trucks outside the district are being issued after fixing hologram and putting signatures of authorized officials of CISF to check pilferage.
- (xiii) Regular FIRs are lodged by the management of the collieries and CISF with local police stations against the pilferage/theft of coal. A close watch on the activities of criminals is kept by CISF.
- (xiv) Escorting of coal rakes in coordination with RPF in pilferage prone areas, etc.

Further Coal India Limited has taken several steps to improve the quality of coal sold, which include:-

- (i) Deployment of more number of Surface Miners to facilitate selective mining.
- (ii) Fifteen washeries have been planned for installation with annual capacity of 112.60 Million Tons.
- (iii) Selective mining of bands of more than one meter thickness.
- (iv) Appropriate positioning of Over Burden (OB) and coal benches to avoid contamination.
- (v) Scrapping/cleaning of coal benches before blasting.
- (vi) Supply of crushed coal of (-)100 mm, etc.

In addition, third-party sampling has been introduced to minimize and resolve disputes regarding quality.

#### **Pollution caused due to coal mining**

†2304. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the pollution, caused due to coal mining by Coal India Ltd. in different coal zones in Jharkhand, is causing great damage to environment and the citizens have to face serious health hazards;

(b) whether it is also a fact that many coal companies situated in that State are not following the standards of controlling pollution; and

(c) if so, the steps Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) The pollution caused in the coal mines of Coal India Limited (CIL) situated in the State of Jharkhand is within the permissible limits. Also CIL/ its subsidiary companies are taking all the necessary mitigative measures as per the provisions of the approved Environment Management Plans.

(c) Does not arise in view of the reply given to parts (a) and (b) above.

#### **Fire in coal block in Pachwara**

†2305. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the incident of fire took place in the seam of Pachwara central coal block situated at Amrapadra in Pakur district of Jharkhand;

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.