

under the said Act by Central Government can only be transferred/vested in a Government company. Further, notification issued under the provisions of above mentioned Act for acquisition of land can not be de-notified/rescinded under Section 21 of the General Clause Act, 1897.

Enhancement of royalty on coal

2375. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the study group constituted by the Ministry to consider revision of rates on royalty submitted its report to Government;

(b) if so, whether Government is considering enhancement of royalty on coal; and

(c) by when the decision of enhancement of the rate of royalty on coal is expected to be taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): (a) to (c) The Study Group constituted by the Ministry of Coal to consider revision of rates of royalty on coal and lignite submitted its report to the Government on 05.02.2018. The final recommendation of the Study Group is under consideration of the Government.

Pilferage from coal mines

2376. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any information on the cases of pilferage from coal mines in the country and if so, details thereof; and

(b) details of action plan of Government to stop this pilferage?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): (a) and (b) FIRs lodged in cases of theft/pilferage of coal during the last three years and current year company-wise and State-wise is given below:

Name of the Company	State	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
		Number of FIRs LODGED		
1	2	3	4	5
ECL	WB	241	153	224
	Jharkhand	35	22	135

1	2	3	4	5
	Sub Total	276	175	359
BCCL	Jharkhand	75	96	23
	WB	10	8	7
	Sub Total	85	104	30
CCL	Jharkhand	0	3	34
NCL	MP	0	0	0
	UP	1	0	0
	Sub Total	1	0	0
WCL	Maharashtra	19	16	15
	MP	1	0	0
	Sub Total	20	16	15
SECL	MP	1	2	1
	Chhattisgarh	1	3	2
	Sub Total	2	5	3
MCL	Odisha	1	0	9
NEC	Assam	31	25	21
	Coal India Limited	416	325	471

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 to prevent theft/pilferage of coal. Further, whenever any incident of theft/pilferage of coal comes to the notice of the coal companies, First Information Reports (FIRs) are lodged and action is taken against the guilty.

Various measures taken by the coal companies to check such theft/pilferage of coal which are mainly:-

- (i) Check posts have been established at entry/exit points along with CCTVs where all coal laden vehicles are physically checked.

- (ii) Security at coal dumps have been improved by wall fencing, proper illumination and round the clock guarding.
- (iii) Regular patrolling is conducted in and around the mine including OB dumps.
- (iv) Armed Guards have been deployed at Railway sidings.
- (v) Joint patrolling with local police is also being carried out in pilferage prone areas.
- (vi) Surprise checks/raids are conducted by flying squads of CISF/security department.
- (vii) Security squads have been introduced to check transportation of coal en route 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 being issued after fixing hologram and putting signatures of authorized officials of CISF to check pilferage.
- (xi) 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 being maintained by CISF.
- (xii) Interaction and liaison with District officials is carried out at regular intervals and meeting are held with DC and District Administration.
- (xiii) The E-surveillance programme through use of Information Technology is being implemented and initiatives like Global Positioning System(GPS)/General Packet Radio Service(GPRS)/Closed Circuit Televisions (CCTVs), Vehicle Tracking Systems and electronic weigh-bridges have been installed to check the problem of theft/pilferage at mines, sidings and transportation.
- (xiv) Satellite monitoring of the coalfields is being done by the mobile app "Khan Prahari" and web app Coal Mine Surveillance and Management System (CMSMS).