

Contraventions observed	Action Taken
SOPs in local language was not placed in operator cabin	SOPs in Local language (Tamil) is now displayed in SME machine operator cabin.
Dust Control System at cutting system and discharge end was not provided	In the first phase, in two machines, spraying jets at cutting and discharge end and also portable auto sprinkling water jets are now provided to suppress the dust during cutting, and water spraying is been done on conveyor to suppress the dust at discharge end.

Environment friendly procedure for coal mining

2379. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Green Tribunal (NGT) has passed many orders relating to coal mining in the country regarding unscientific/obsolete method of mining, with a view to protect environment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has adopted any environment friendly coal mining procedure across its mines spread over the country;

(d) if so, details thereof; and

(e) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. National Green Tribunal (NGT) *vide* Order dated 17.4.2014 in OA No.73/2014 had banned rat hole coal mining in Meghalaya. The case in NGT was disposed of in the order dated 31.08.2018 with a direction that the orders of ban on rat hole mining will continue, subject to further orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Further, the ban on transportation of already mined such material will also continue.

The final order of NGT was challenged in the Hon'ble Supreme court by Govt. of Meghalaya. Supreme Court, *vide* its order dated 03.07.2019, disposed of the case with the direction that:

1. All extracted coal as assessed by State of Meghalaya lying in different districts of State of Meghalaya which as per order of NGT is in custody of

State of Meghalaya shall be handed over to Coal India Ltd for proper disposal. The Coal India Ltd. shall auction the coal so received by it as per its best judgment and remit the proceed to State to the extent as directed above.

2. State of Meghalaya was permitted to transfer the amount of ₹100 crores to Central Pollution Control Board from the Meghalaya Environment Protection and Restoration Fund which amount shall be used by Central Pollution Control Board only for restoration of Environment.

(c) and (d) Coal companies have adopted Environmental friendly practices in coal mining such as:

1. Plantation in the mining activity areas, along roads to create green belts in and around the mines.
2. Bio-reclamation of degraded mined areas.
3. Remote Sensing Survey for analysis of land use improvement in opencast mines.
4. Development of Eco Parks in mined out areas.
5. Suitable water spraying systems for arresting fugitive dust in roads, Coal Handling Plants, Feeder Breakers, Crushers, coal transfer points and coal stock areas.
6. Mobile water sprinkling in all the haul roads of opencast mines.
7. Provision of closed water recirculation arrangement in all coal washeries.
8. Installation of effluent treatment plants/oil grease traps in opencast mines.
9. Recharging of ground water within mine premises as well as in nearby villages through rainwater harvesting.

- (e) Not applicable.

Death of workers in SECL

†2380. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received complaints of illegal coal mining in various parts of Chhattisgarh and if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.