

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 43
ANSWERED ON 04.12.2023

Impact on livelihood due to closure of coal mines

43. Dr. Fauzia Khan:

Will the Minister of Coal be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to implement measures to address the adverse impacts on the livelihood of approximately fifty lakh people engaged in coal mining, due to the anticipated closure of thirty coal mines over the next three to four years for the creation of forests or water bodies;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) details of schemes in place which aim at the economic diversification of these regions to minimize the socio-economic disruptions caused by closure of mines, if any; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, COAL AND MINES
(SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)

(a) to (d): As per the present practices, the manpower deployed in the mines, which are closed, are re-deployed in nearby mines. New mines are being opened for maintaining coal production as per growing requirement of the country. Thus, there is no such impact due to the closure of the mines in upcoming years on account of absorption of manpower by the new and operating mines in nearby vicinity of the closing mines.

After the closure of the mines, the physical features of the closed mines envisages mine void which serves as a water body, reclaimed plain land and reclaimed OB Dump. The land disturbed from mining is stabilized, Technically Reclaimed and planted with native plant species (primarily Fruit Bearing, Medicinal, Ornamental, Hardwoods etc.). The extent of the features follows the provisions of approved Environment Management Plan, Mining Plan & Mine Closure Plan.
