

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 47
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.12.2023**

Sustainable mining practices

47. DR. SANTANU SEN:

Will the Minister of *COAL* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any measure to ensure responsible and sustainable mining practices specifically in privatized coal mines, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government will provide any incentive or support to encourage private entities to invest in clean coal technologies or adopt cleaner and more efficient mining practices;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether Government is planning to establish a mechanism to regularly evaluate and monitor the performance of privatized coal mines in terms of environmental compliance, workers' safety, and community welfare, and the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Yes Sir. As mandated by Coal Block Development and Production Agreement (CBDPA) executed between private allocattees and Nominated Authority (Ministry of Coal), the Successful Bidder shall strive to minimize the carbon footprints from operations at the Coal Mine, undertake steps to reduce environmental pollution and promote sustainability, in accordance with Good Industry Practice. Further, Successful Bidder shall implement mechanised coal extraction, transport and evacuation in the Coal Mine, in line with modern and prevalent technologies.
- (b) Yes Sir. CBDPA has the provision to provide 50% rebate on Final offer, if the bidder consumes the coal by own or sells the coal for coal gasification or coal liquefaction. Further, separate auction window under Non-Regulated Sector has been created for making coal available for new Coal Gasification plants.
- (c) Does not arise in view of reply above.
- (d) The Government is not planning to introduce any new monitoring mechanism for private coal mines as their performance in terms of environment compliance, workers' safety and community welfare, etc. is evaluated and monitored by respective agencies like State Pollution Control Board, Director General of Mines Safety, District Administration, etc.
