

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1474
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2024**

Mine Opening Permission Module

1474. SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA:

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

- (a) whether the module is integrated with existing systems and databases to ensure seamless data exchange and validation, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the manner in which the module will ensure compliance with environmental and social regulations and whether safeguards are in place to prevent unauthorized mining, if so, the manner in which tracking of unauthorised mining can be done; and
- (c) the manner in which the module will address the issue of legacy mines and orphaned mines and also state the provisions that are in place for their closure and rehabilitation?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF COAL & MINES
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)**

(a) Yes. Mine opening permission module of single window clearance system, launched by MOC for online processing and grant of Mine/seam opening permission by Coal Controller is as per the existing system and is integrated with the database of mining plans approved through single window clearance system, for seamless exchange of data.

(b) For grant of Mine opening permission to any coal mine, obtaining various statutory clearances related to environment, social and legal mining is a prerequisite. Following statutory clearances are being ensured by Coal Controller organization before grant of mine opening permission to any coal mine:

- Approved mining plan
- Forest clearance, if applicable
- Environment Clearance
- Ground water clearance (If applicable)
- Consent to Establish
- Consent to Operate
- Execution of escrow agreement
- DGM Permission (if any)

(c) Mine opening permission module of single window clearance system is for online processing and grant of Mine/seam opening permission by Coal Controller. With regard to the closure and rehabilitation of mines, guidelines have been issued on 29.05.2020 for "Preparation, Formulation, Submission, Processing, Scrutiny, Approval and Revision of Mining plan for the coal and lignite blocks". Further, for the mines abandoned/ discontinued/ closed before 2009, guidelines were issued on 28.10.2022.
