

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1155
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.03.2025

Sustainable and safe use of treated mine water

1155 # Shri Aditya Prasad:

Shri Baburam Nishad:

Smt. Rekha Sharma:

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

- (a) the policies and guidelines to ensure sustainable and safe utilization of treated mine water for drinking, irrigation and industrial purposes;
- (b) the quality control measures being adopted to ensure that the treated mine water supplied for drinking purposes meets the required health and safety standards; and
- (c) whether a national level framework is being developed to expand mine water management initiatives across all mining States, particularly in the State of Jharkhand, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a): The Ministry of Coal, through its Coal and Lignite Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), namely Coal India Limited (CIL), NLC India Limited (NLCIL), and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL), has been promoting the utilization of treated mine water for drinking, irrigation, and industrial purposes in alignment with relevant environmental and water conservation guidelines. The quality of treated mine water for gainful utilization is guided by the provisions of the Environmental Protection Act, 1986, the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, and directives issued by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and respective State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs). Additionally, Coal/Lignite PSUs have formulated their own standard operating procedures to ensure the safe and effective utilization of treated mine water for various purposes.

(b): To ensure that the treated mine water supplied for drinking purposes meets health and safety standards, various quality control measures are undertaken, including treated mine water is tested periodically by accredited laboratories as per the parameters prescribed by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS IS 10500:2012), Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) and any other applicable standards. Adequate treatment processes such as sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection are applied before supply.

(c): Efforts are being made to expand mine water management initiatives across all coal and lignite mining states, including Jharkhand. Coal/Lignite PSUs have undertaken projects for gainful utilization of mine water for community use, irrigation, and industrial purposes. In Jharkhand, MoU has been signed between the Government of Jharkhand and Coal India Limited (CIL) to facilitate the utilization of mine water for the benefit of villages located within the command areas of Central Coalfields Limited (CCL), Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL), and Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL).
