GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3524
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.04.2017

Curbing illegal coal mining

3524.   SHRI HARIVANSH

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a)   whether it is a fact that a lot of illegal mining activity is taking place in the country;

(b)   what steps have been taken by Government, with the help of modern technology to curb illegal mining in various parts of the country; and

(c)   the number of complaints received in this regard during the last two years?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL, POWER, NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MINES.

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (c): As informed by Coal India Limited, illegal mining of coal is carried out stealthily and clandestinely. As such, it is not possible to specify the exact quantum of coal stolen and losses incurred on account of illegal mining of coal.

However, as per raids conducted by security personnel as well as joint raids with the law and order authorities of the concerned State Government, the quantity of coal recovered and its approximate value, FIRs lodged during the last two years are as under:

ILLEGAL MINING OF COAL SUBSIDARYWISE AND STATE-WISE

(Provisional)

Co.	State	2014-15			2015-16		
		Qty. Recovered (te)	Approx. Value (Rs. Lakh)	FIRs lodged	Qty. Recovered (te)	Approx. Value (Rs. Lakh)	FIRs lodged
ECL	WB	34.75	0.695	2	0.00	0.000	17
	Jharkhand	0.00	0.000	0	110.77	5.540	0
		34.75	0.695	2	110.77	5.540	17
BCCL	Jharkhand	0.00	0.000	3	0.00	0.000	0
	WB	0.00	0.000	0	0.00	0.000	0
		0.00	0.000	3	0.00	0.000	0
CCL	Jharkhand	139.00	1.550	1	2.00	0.020	1
NCL	UP/MP	0.00	0.000	0	0.00	0.000	0

WCL	Maharashtra	0.00	0.000	0	0.00	0.000	0
	MP	0.00	0.000	0	0.00	0.000	0
		0.00	0.000	0	0.00	0.000	0
SECL	MP	0.00	0.000	0	0.00	0.000	0
	Chattisgarh	0.00	0.000	0	0.00	0.000	0
		0.00	0.000	0	0.00	0.000	0
MCL	Orissa	0.00	0.000	0	0.00	0.000	0
NEC	Assam	0.00	0.000	1	0.00	0.000	0
Coal India		173.75	2.245	7	112.77	5.560	18

Following steps with the help of modern technology taken to curb illegal Mining :-

    i.   Development of E-surveillance through use of Information Technology
- Global Positioning Systems (GPS)/ General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) for Vehicle Tracking
- Closed Circuit Televisions (CCTV)
- Electronic Weigh Bridges
- Geo-fencing

    ii.   Development of mine surveillance systems

    iii.   Action initiated for video photography and drone photography

    iv.   Development of satellite surveillance in progress

    v.   Rat holes created by illegal mining are being dozed off and filled up with stone and debris wherever possible.

    vi.   Concrete walls have been erected on the mouth of the abandoned mines to prevent access and illegal activities in these areas.

    vii.   Regular raids/checks being conducted by security personnel and static security pickets including armed guards during the night hours are being deployed at pithead depots.

    viii.   Surprise raids/checks being conducted jointly by security personnel and law and order authorities of the concerned State Government.

    ix.   Fencing is being constructed at the various illegal mining sites along with displaying of signboards mentioning "Dangerous and Prohibited Place."

    x.   Dumping of the overburden is being done on the outcrop zones, which are not required to be mined.

    xi.   Collection of intelligence reports about illegal coal depots and illegal movement of coal and informing district authorities of the same for taking preventive action.

    xii.   Installation of check-posts at vulnerable points to check transport documents;

    xiii.   Training of existing security personnel, refresher training of CISF personnel and basic training of new recruits in security discipline for strengthening the security setup;

    xiv.   The coal companies maintain close liaison with the State authorities. Committee/task force has been constituted at different level (block level, sub-divisional level, district level, state level) at some subsidiaries of CIL to monitor different aspects of illegal mining.

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