

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.07.2017**

Check on illegal activities in coal mines

5. SHRI B. K Hariprasad:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- a) whether the incidents of illegal mining, hoarding, theft and black marketing of coal have been reported from various coal mines in the country during the last three years; and
- b) the details of any assessment of steps already taken by Government to check such activities?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) As informed by Coal India limited, theft / pilferage and illegal mining of coal is carried out stealthily and clean destinely. As per raids conducted by security personnel as well as joint raids with the law and order authorities of the concerned State Government, the incidences have been reported to CIL / Coal Ministry.

(b): The prevention of illegal mining / theft, hoarding and black-marketing of coal in non-CIL areas is the responsibility and in the domain of State government. CIL and Ministry of Coal has taken steps to check such activities. These are as under:-

Directorate General Resettlement (DGR) sponsored ESM security agencies and departmental security forces have been engaged in different mines of CIL to prevent pilferage and theft of coal. Further, in some areas, CISF security personnel have been deployed. Following steps have been taken to check such incidents in future:-

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

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

(iv) 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.

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

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

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

(viii) Regular FIRs are lodged by the Management of the collieries and CISF with local Thana against the pilferage/theft of coal. A close watch on the activities of criminals is being maintained by CISF.
