

**MINISTRY OF COAL
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 858
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.12.2017
Safety measures at coal mines**

858. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the safety measures implemented by the coal companies during the last five years;
- (b) whether Government is aware of illegal and risky mining happening in these mines; and
- (c) if so, the details of safety measures adopted and steps taken to stop illegal mining?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF COAL AND RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a): Apart from the provisions as mandated by The Mines Act, Regulations and Rules thereunder, the following safety measures have been implemented by Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries in last five years.

1. Safety Audit of all operating mines of Coal India Ltd. (CIL) through multi-disciplinary Inter-Company Safety Audit teams in 2017.
2. Online Centralized Safety Monitoring System “CIL Safety Information System (CSIS)” developed and uploaded in CIL website.
3. Imparting Specialized Training by SIMTARS, Australia on Risk Assessment to prepare Risk assessment based Safety Management Plans (SMPs), Principal Hazards Management Plans (PHMPs) and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).
4. Establishment of Geo-Technical Cell in all subsidiaries
5. Site-specific risk assessment based SMPs prepared for each mine of CIL. All SMPs are being monitored through ISO of each subsidiary.
6. Principal Hazards Management Plans (PHMP) formulated as a part of SMP.
7. Site-specific, Risk Assessment based Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for all Mining and Allied operations framed and implemented.
8. Assessment of stability of OB Dumps and Benches conducted thoroughly by using expertise of CMPDIL and multi-disciplinary ISO teams in most of the opencast mines.
9. Introduction of Gas Chromatograph for better accuracy in mine air sampling and Man-Riding system in UG mines having arduous travel.
10. Introduction of simulators based training to Dumper Operators, high mast towers for increasing level of illumination, deployment of Surface Miners for blast free mining, proximity warning devices, rear view camera, automatic fire detection in dumpers etc.

(b)to(c): As informed by CIL, illegal and risky coal mining is not done by CIL and its subsidiaries. All the coal mining operations are being done scientifically and systematically by adopting the appropriate technology and mining methods after obtaining mandatory permissions for extraction of coal from the Directorate General of Mine safety (DGMS).
