

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COAL**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1806  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.12.2018**

**Licensing of coal mines**

1806: SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) The number of coal mines in the country, at present;
- (b) The number of new coal mines given license since 2014;
- (c) The measures taken by Government to control illegal mining activity; and
- (d) Whether Government is spending any amount for coal import, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COAL  
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)**

- (a): At present, the number of coal mines in the country is 454 out of which Coal India Ltd (CIL) has 369 nos., Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL) has 48 nos. and balance 37 nos. coal mines belong to captive & others.
- (b): Total 54 number of new coal mines has been given mine opening permission by Coal Controller's office, Kolkata since 2014.
- (c): Law & Order is a State subject; hence primarily it is the responsibility of the State/ District administration to take necessary deterrent action to stop/curb illegal mining of coal.

However, the following steps are being taken to prevent illegal mining of coal in the abandoned coal mines:

1. Abandoned mines are being dozed off and filled up with stone and debris wherever possible.
2. Concrete walls have been erected on the mouth of the abandoned mines to prevent access and illegal activities in these areas.
3. Surprise raids/checks being conducted jointly by security personnel and law and order authorities of the concerned State Government.
4. Fencing is being constructed at the various abandoned mines along with displaying of signboards mentioning "Dangerous and Prohibited Place."
5. Dumping of the overburden is being done on the outcrop zones, which are not required to be mined.
6. Installation of check-posts at vulnerable points to check transport documents;

7. Training of existing security personnel, refresher training of CISF personnel and basic training of new recruits in security discipline for strengthening the security setup;
8. The coal companies maintain close liaison with the State authorities.

The Government of India has launched one mobile app namely “Khanan Prahari” and one web app Coal Mine Surveillance and Management System (CMSMS) for reporting unauthorized coal mining activities so that monitoring and taking suitable action on it can be done by Law & Order enforcing authority.

- (d): The quantity and amount (in Rupees) spent by Government in coal import during last 4 years and current year are given as under:

*(Qty in Million Tonnes and Values in Million Rupees)*

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Coking (Qty)</b>	<b>Coking (Value)</b>	<b>Non-Coking (Qty)</b>	<b>Non-Coking (Value)</b>	<b>Total (Qty)</b>	<b>Total (Value)</b>
2014-15	43.72	337,656	174.07	707,411	217.78	1,045,066
2015-16	44.56	282,519	159.39	577,819	203.95	860,338
2016-17	41.64	412,301	149.31	590,013	190.95	1,002,314
2017-18 (P)	47.00	595,226	161.27	789,543	208.27	1,384,770
2018-19 (upto Oct-18)	29.96	401,874	103.17	580,629	133.13	982,503

*P : Provisional*

The imported quantity of 2017-18 at 208.27 MT is less than the imported quantity of 2014-15 which stood at 217.78 MT even as power generation and industrial activity grew substantially after 2014-15.

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