

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COAL

RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1311  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.3.2023

**Illegal storage and mining of coal**

1311. Shri Sanjay Singh :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of increasing illegal storage, mining and theft of coal in the country;
- (b) if so, details of number of such cases and action taken against the culprits from 2019 to 2022, State-wise;
- (c) the estimated cost of coal being outsourced every year in the country including the State of Uttar Pradesh and whether Government has conducted any survey in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, COAL AND MINES  
(SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)**

(a): During the course of coal production by Coal India Limited, all statutory provisions under various Acts, Rules and Regulations are observed for conducting various activities. As such, there is no illegal mining in the lease-hold areas of Coal India Limited. However, illegal mining of coal is reported to be carried out mainly from abandoned mines, shallow coal seams situated at remote/isolated places. It is a Law & Order problem which is a State subject, hence primarily falls under the domain of the State/District administration to take necessary deterrent action to stop/curb illegal mining of coal.

(b): First Information Reports (FIRs) are lodged whenever any incident of Illegal mining of coal comes to the notice of the coal companies. Numbers of FIR lodged in cases of Illegal mining of coal during 2019-2022 company-wise and State-wise are as under:-

(Provisional)

Name of the Company	State	FIR lodged			
		2021-22	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19
ECL	West Bengal	2	12	224	184
	Jharkhand	3	1	18	64
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>248</b>
BCCL	Jharkhand	0	0	0	0
	West Bengal	0	0	0	0

	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>CCL</b>	<b>Jharkhand</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>NCL</b>	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0	0
	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0	0
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>WCL</b>	Maharashtra	0	0	0	0
	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0	0
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>SECL</b>	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0	0
	Chhattisgarh	0	0	0	0
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>MCL</b>	<b>Odisha</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>NEC</b>	<b>Assam</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Coal India Limited</b>		<b>11</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>263</b>

The following steps are taken to check Illegal mining of coal:-

- Concrete walls have been erected on the mouth of the abandoned mines to prevent access and illegal activities in these areas.
- Surprise raids/checks being conducted jointly by security personnel and law and order authorities of the concerned State Government.
- Dumping of the overburden is being done on the outcrop zones.
- Installation of check-posts at vulnerable points.
- Training of existing security/CISF personnel, refresher training and basic training of new recruits in security discipline for strengthening the security setup.
- Maintaining close liaison with the State authorities.
- Committees/task force have been constituted at different levels (block level, sub-divisional level, district level, state level) in some subsidiaries of CIL to monitor different aspects of illegal mining.

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 authority.

(c) and (d): The estimated cost of coal being outsourced every year in the country including the State of Uttar Pradesh are as under:-

<b>Particulars</b>	<b>Amount (in Rs.)</b>
Cost Per Tonne of Total Coal Production (FY 21-22)	1,406.62
Contractual Expenses Cost Per Tonne of Total Coal Production (FY 21-22)	303.02

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