

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 363
ANSWERED ON 06.02.2023

Environmental impact involved in the development of new Coal mining sites

363 Smt. Jebi Mather Hisham:

Will the Minister of **Coal** be pleased to state that:

- (a) whether Government has assessed the massive human and environmental costs as part of developing new coal mining sites, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (b) whether the new coal mines are expected to increase water demand by 168,041 kilolitres per day, thereby causing exacerbation of the extant water shortage;
- (c) if so, the precautionary measures taken to tackle such situation, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (d) whether the land reclaimed from exhausted Coal India Ltd. mines will be used for compensatory afforestation (CA), if so, State-wise data for last five years?

ANSWER

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

(a): As per the EIA Notification 2006, it is mandatory to conduct social and environmental impacts and provide with Environment Management plan, which includes the financial budgets for environmental protection measures & social responsibility activities. Only on concurrence of the documents by the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) Environmental Clearance is issued by the MoEF&CC for the new projects.

In line with the notification, a detailed Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) is carried out for each project by coal companies considering pre and post mining conditions for preparing EMPs which are discussed in details by the Environmental Appraisal Committee (EAC) of experts under Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC). On the basis of the discussions, EAC recommends the case and accordingly Environment Clearance (EC) is granted by the MoEF&CC. While granting EC, MoEF&CC stipulates conditions/ mitigation measures for implementing the EMPs which have to be complied with by the project proponents.

On obtaining EC, the Project Proponent also secures Consent to Establish (CTE) - one time and Consent to Operate (CTO) – periodic, under the provisions of Water and Air Acts from the concerned State Pollution Control Boards (SPCB). During the course of implementation of the project, the compliance of the conditions laid in the EC, CTO etc. is monitored regularly by the regulators like MoEF&CC, SPCB etc.

Wherever projects involve Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) of villages, respective Coal company identifies the number of Project Affected Families (PAF) and Project Displaced

Families (PDF) and pay the compensation to the land losers as per the directions of the concerned State Govt. and under extant rules/regulations.

Further, pollution levels that will be generated due to the proposed mining operations are being predicted and the mitigation measures along with fund provision (Environment Management Cost) are being made in the Environmental Management Plan. Details of the environmental and R&R costs in respect of new projects of CIL, SCCL and NLCIL, State-wise, are placed at **Annexure-A**.

(b) & (c): EIA/EMP is prepared for each project based on project specific TOR recommended by MoEF&CC which requires detailed Hydrology and Hydrogeology Impact Assessment & Management Plan based on which EC is granted. Coal companies obtain "No Objection Certificate" for abstraction of groundwater for each project from Central Ground Water Authority, Ministry of Water Resources, GoI. Advance payment of fee is ensured for each project for abstraction of groundwater. Clearance is granted based on detailed Hydrogeological Report and Groundwater Modelling.

Coal companies take several initiatives to recharge the ground water through rainwater harvesting, digging of ponds, developments of lagoons, de-silting existing ponds and tanks etc. Every mine itself acts as a rain water harvesting structure. Coal companies attempt maximum utilization of mine water discharge for community use.

In CIL, during 2021-22, out of 6047.03 Lcum average mine water discharge, 2591.92 Lcum of mine water was utilized for own use (industrial & domestic) and 2826.75 Lcum was utilized for community supply (Domestic & Irrigation).

In SCCL, during 2021-22, out of 1090.59 Lcum of mine waste discharge, 4.85.22 Lcum water was utilized for its own use.

NLCIL has developed artificial lakes in mined out areas and eco-restoration activities have been taken up in order to bring back the original habitant formation in the area. Moreover, the artificial lakes act as recharge pits to improve the ground water level in the area.

Since, mine-wise EIA/EMP is prepared, state-wise details are not compiled.

(d): CIL has identified land which can be used in lieu of Compensatory Afforestation (CA) over last five years, Subsidiary wise/ State wise details are as below:

Company	State	Envisaged Area (Ha)
ECL	West Bengal, Jharkhand	221.910
CCL	Jharkhand	300.750
WCL	Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra	428.350
MCL	Odisha	196.437
SECL	Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh	2001.000
NCL	Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh	43.000
Total		3191.447

Annexure-A

The details of the environmental and R&R cost in respect of new projects of CIL, SCCL and NLCIL, State-wise are as under:

Sl. No.	Subsidiary	Name of Mine	State	Information for point no. (a)	
				Environmental Cost (in INR Lakhs approx.)	R&R Cost (in INR Lakhs approx.)
1	WCL	Gandhigram UG	Madhya Pradesh	820.06	3132.36
2	WCL	Sharda UG	Madhya Pradesh	62.54	18.98
3	WCL	Tawa III UG	Madhya Pradesh	676.00	1467.58
4	WCL	Amalgamated Dhankasa Jamunia UG	Madhya Pradesh	993.07	5212.96
5	SECL	Rampur Batura OC	Madhya Pradesh	1224.00	2975.00
6	WCL	Gauri Pauni OC	Maharashtra	777.54	14135.95
7	SECL	Ambika OC	Chhattisgarh	618.00	4461.80
8	SECL	Ketki UG	Chhattisgarh	132.00	534.70
9	SECL	Durgapur OC	Chhattisgarh	15905.00	49594.00
10	SECL	Porda Chintapani OC	Chhattisgarh	15280.00	112057.00
11	SECL	Batura West OC	Chhattisgarh	11985.00	26322.00
12	SECL	Madannagar OC	Chhattisgarh	To be borne by	98459.00
13	SECL	Pelma OC	Chhattisgarh	MDO Operator	151494.00
14	SCCL	Naini OC	Odisha	1995.00	52568.00
15	MCL	Siarmal OCP	Odisha	19887.00	62864.31
16	MCL	Basundhra (W) Extn OC	Odisha	2276.67	7143.00
17	ECL	Hura C OC	Jharkhand	7735.88	32203.73
18	CCL	Sanghmitra OC	Jharkhand	5032.91	22016.00
19	CCL	Chandragupta OC	Jharkhand	9140.63	5504.00
20	CCL	Piparwar Ph-I UG	Jharkhand	451.59	--
21	CCL	Kotre Basantpur Pachmo OC	Jharkhand	16159.00	10954.00
22	CCL	Parej East UG	Jharkhand	531.00	--
23	CCL	Sayal D OC	Jharkhand	849.72	--
24	BCCL	Kapuria UG	Jharkhand	200.00	74232.00
25	NLCIL	Pachwara South Coal Block	Jharkhand	2230.00	-
26	SCCL	VK OC	Telangana	2796.00	5917.00
27	SCCL	JK OC Mine (Rompedu OC)	Telangana	1833.00	6680.00
28	SCCL	Goleti OC	Telangana	2364.00	1737.00
29	SCCL	MVK OC	Telangana	3687.00	44930.00
