GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COAL

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 362

TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2023

REHABILITATION OF COAL MINE WORKERS

362. SHRI SUJEET KUMAR

Will the Minister of Coal be pleased to state: -

- (a) whether Government has developed or is developing a plan for the rehabilitation of coal mine workers as country is moving towards a greener economy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor;
- (c) the amount spent by the Coal India Limited (CIL) for providing welfare services including water supply, medical facilities, housing facilities to coal mine labourers across the country in last three years;
- (d) whether Government is considering introducing "Green Coal" as a sustainable alternative to traditional coal plants; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

- (a) & (b) Green economy is being encouraged and growing, at the same time coal based thermal energy is also growing. Coal continues to play a critical role in meeting India's energy requirement and new coal mines are opening up to cater the growing energy demand. The coal mine workers are redeployed in other mines as and when a coal mine closes due to completion of reserves, safety and other issues.
- (c) The amount spent by the Coal India Limited (CIL) for providing welfare services including water supply, medical facilities, housing facilities to coal mine labourers across the nation in last three years are given in table below:

| Year | Water Supply | Medical | Housing |
|---------|--------------|---------|---------|
| 2020-21 | 131.62 | 727.87 | 775.55 |
| 2021-22 | 129.16 | 872.10 | 743.27 |
| 2022-23 | 98.44 | 795.04 | 836.45 |
| Total | 359.22 | 2395.01 | 2355.27 |

^{*} Figures in Rs. crores.

(d) & (e) There is no such proposal under consideration.
