GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COAL RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*14 TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.12.2023

Land acquisition by NLC

*14 Shri C. Ve. Shanmugam:

Will the Minister of Coal be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that production / extraction of coal from the mines of the Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC), especially in Tamil Nadu, has increased during the last few years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and this year;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Government has acquired more lands for third mine, from neighbouring areas for mining purposes;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of lease agreement / R&R Policy required for acquiring lands for mining purposes?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e):- A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to part (a) to (e) of Rajya Sabha Starred Question no. *14 for answer on 04.12.2023 asked by Shri C. Ve. Shanmugam:

(a) & (b): There are no coal mines of NLC India Limited (NLCIL) located in the State of Tamil Nadu. However, NLCIL operates three opencast lignite mines in Neyveli, Tamil Nadu. The details of lignite production from all the lignite mines of NLCIL from 2020-21 to 2023-24 (Up to October, 2023) is given below:

	Name of the Mines	Lignite Production (Figures in Million Tonnes)			
Sl. No.		2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24 (Up to October, 2023)
1	Neyveli Lignite Mine - 1	6.290	7.005	7.144	3.947
2	Neyveli Lignite Mine - 1A	2.574	4.082	5.051	3.370
3	Neyveli Lignite Mine - 2	9.162	12.548	10.285	4.250
4	Barsingsar Mine, Rajasthan	1.237	1.477	2.011	1.177

- (c) & (d): NLCIL has not yet acquired any lands for the proposed Mine-III.
- (e): (i) The lands required for the NCLIL projects at Neyveli are being acquired by the Government of Tamil Nadu under the Tamil Nadu Acquisition of Land for Industrial Purposes Act, 1997 based on the Tamil Nadu Land Acquisition Laws (Revival of Operation, Amendment and Validation) Act, 2019.

As per this Act, the provisions relating to the determination of compensation as specified in the First Schedule, rehabilitation and resettlement as specified in the Second Schedule and infrastructure amenities as specified in the Third Schedule to the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 [RFCTLARR Act] shall apply to the land acquisition proceedings.

Based on this, NLCIL has started to implement the compensation for its Neyveli projects and R&R policy as per the provisions of Schedule-I, II & III of RFCTLARR Act.

Moreover, in view of the demand of enhanced compensation, enhanced R&R benefits and permanent employment, NLCIL, Neyveli, has revised the minimum compensation (including Multiplying factor, Solatium, Additional Market Value), wherever the land compensation arrived by Land Acquisition Officer (LAO) as per the provision of Schedule-I of RFCTLARR Act is less than the below:

- (a) for agricultural lands, ₹ 25 Lakh per acre.
- (b) for house site lands acquired from Rural Areas, ₹ 40 Lakh per acre.
- (c) for house lands acquired from Urban areas, ₹ 75 Lakh per acre.

Apart from the above, monetary benefits under the Rehabilitation and Resettlement provisions are also being paid.

(ii) In the case of Talabira II & III coal mines located in Orissa, land has been acquired through CBA Act. The R&R policy for this coal mine is based on the Odisha State R&R policy, 2006.