

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COAL  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 841  
ANSWERED ON 11.12.2023**

**Just Transition Policy**

**841. Shri S Niranjana Reddy:**

Will the Minister of Coal be pleased to state:

- a) whether Government has an estimate of the jobs lost due to closure of mines and other fossil fuel sectors, if so, State-wise details thereof and if not, reasons therefor;
- b) the implementation status of "Just Transition Project" set up by Government with the World Bank;
- c) whether Government intends to adopt a "Just Transition Policy" that is in alignment with the Paris Agreement for protecting and supporting workers affected by job losses resulting from push towards green energy; and
- d) if not, how Government plans to protect and support workers affected by job losses resulting from push towards green energy?

**ANSWER**

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

**(a):** As per present practice, manpower deployed in the mines of Government coal companies which are to be closed in upcoming three to four years will be redeployed in nearby mines of coal companies. As such, the mines which are on the verge of closure in near future are spread across different coalfields in a large geographical area and no employee has been retrenched in Government coal companies due to closure of coal mines. Also, new mines are being opened up for maintaining the Coal production as per the growing requirement of the nation.

**(b):** Government has not set up any "Just Transition Project" with the World Bank as of now. Nevertheless, the World Bank is currently implementing a technical assistance project titled "Support to India's Coal Mine Closure Framework, Achieving a Just Transition for All." This technical assistance is intended for the study of already closed, abandoned and to be closed mines due to resource exhaustion and geo-spatial mapping of the area.

**(c) & (d):** Although, in due course, some mines may close down due to exhaustion of reserves but at the same time, many new coal mines are being operationalized to meet the growing energy demand. These mines are not only ensuring affordability and energy security of the nation but also providing new additional opportunities for new employment and redeployment of workers in new mines from the to-be-closed mines to ensure better livelihood and also generate indirect employment opportunities in coal regions.

Therefore, In India, the transition away from coal or Just Transition is not happening in foreseeable future. Although India is pushing for renewable/non-fossil-based energy, but the share of coal in the energy basket is going to remain significant in years ahead to ensure affordable energy availability, accessibility, and energy security to enable sustainable development and poverty eradication.

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