

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 686
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.07.2024

SUSTAINABLE MINING PRACTICES

686. **Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:**

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

- (a) the measures Government has taken under 'Mission LiFE' to promote sustainable and environment-friendly coal mining practices;
- (b) details of the budgetary outlay to fund research and development (R&D) in the coal sector, since 2019;
- (c) the number of coal mines abandoned, closed, or discontinued by Coal India Limited (CIL) in the last five years; and
- (d) the technologies CIL is adopting in its underground and opencast mines to enhance sustainability and efficiency?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

- (a) Coal companies under the guidance of the Ministry of Coal have implemented 10 Action items under various categories of 'Mission LiFE' Actions to promote sustainable and environment-friendly coal mining practices in the Coal Sector as indicated in the Annexure.
- (b) The budgetary outlay to fund Research and Development (R&D) in the coal sector since the year 2019 is given below:

Year	Budgetary Outlay (in ₹ Crores)	Actual Released (in ₹ Crores)
2019-20	22.00	18.78
2020-21	12.00	9.97
2021-22	11.50	8.35
2022-23	8.35	6.94
2023-24	18.00	18.00

(c) During the last five years, 24 coal mines have been abandoned, 20 coal mines have been discontinued and no coal mine has been closed by Coal India Limited (CIL).

(d) The technologies adopted by CIL in its underground and opencast mines to enhance sustainability and efficiency are as given below:

- Surface Miner to eliminate the drilling, blasting, and crushing operations.
- Xcentric rippers for blast-less overburden removal.
- Continuous miner and High wall mining for blast-free clean coal technology in underground mines
- 'First Mile Connectivity' projects to minimize road transportation.
- Water sprinklers and Fog canons to mitigate air pollution.
- Drills fitted with wet drilling and dust extractors to control the generation of dust.
- Dedicated coal corridors for coal transportation.
- Effluent treatment plants for the treatment of workshop effluent & Coal Handling Plant.

Annexure

S. No.	Category of 'Mission LiFE' Action	Action Items
1.	Energy Saved	Use of LED bulbs/ tube-lights
		Prefer CNG/ EV vehicle over petrol/ diesel vehicles
		Install a solar systems on rooftops
2.	Water Saved	Participate in recharge of rural water bodies including development of Mining voids for water conservation.
		Create rainwater harvesting infrastructure in home/ schools/ offices
3.	Single Use Plastic Reduced	Use cloth bag for shopping instead of plastic bags
		Participate in and mobilize participation for clean-up drives of coal mining townships/ villages and water bodies
4.	Healthy Lifestyles Adopted	Start biodiversity conservation at community level by developing of Eco-Parks and mining tourism sites.
		Plant trees to reduce the impact of pollution
5.	E-Waste Reduced	Discard gadgets in nearest e-recycling units
