

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF COAL**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2275#**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.12.2024**

**Green cover around coalfields**

**2275# SHRI TEJVEER SINGH:**

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

- (a) whether any new initiative has been taken to increase green cover around coalfields, the details of the plantation and bio-reclamation of mining areas under this initiative;
- (b) whether Government has formulated any specific scheme for plantation of trees on land reclaimed after coal mining, particularly for reclamation of degraded land in non-forest area and the details of the objectives of this scheme; and
- (c) whether Government planned to establish ecological parks in reclaimed areas to promote environmental regeneration as well as tourism and recreational activities?

**ANSWER**  
**MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES**  
**(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)**

**(a):** To increase green cover in and around coalfields, Coal & Lignite Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), namely Coal India Limited (CIL), NLC India Limited (NLCIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL), have adopted innovative techniques in addition to traditional methods of plantation. These include three tier plantation, seed ball plantation, Miyawaki planation, High-Tech cultivation, bamboo plantation, and plantation on overburden dumps using drip irrigation, etc. The Coal & Lignite PSUs have created green cover on 10,942 Ha land as part of their plantation and bio-reclamation efforts in and around coal and lignite mining areas during last 5 years.

**(b):** The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) prescribes various specific and general conditions related to plantation in the Environmental Clearance (EC) of coal mining projects. These conditions encompass measures for plantation on reclaimed

degraded forest and non-forest lands. As per the EC conditions, for reclamation and green belt development, plantations are carried out in coal mining areas, including external overburden dumps and reclaimed degraded forest as well as non-forest lands.

(c): Coal & Lignite PSUs under the guidance of the Ministry of Coal have established 16 Eco-parks / Mine Tourism sites during last 5 years in and around coal mining areas to promote environmental regeneration as well as tourism and recreational activities.

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