

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COAL  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2392**  
**ANSWERED ON 16.12.2024**

**Plans for mine closure in Odisha**

**2392. Shri Debashish Samantaray:**

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

- (a) the number of coal mines in the State of Odisha where mine closure plans have been approved and implemented;
- (b) the steps being taken to rehabilitate the environment and communities affected by closed coal mines in the State; and
- (c) whether Government monitors compliance with mine closure plans in the State of Odisha, if so, the findings of such monitoring?

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

**(a):** Presently, there are total 37 coal mines in the state of Odisha. All these mines have approved mine closure plans.

**(b):** The steps being taken to rehabilitate the environment and communities affected by closed coal mines in the State are as follows:

**(I) Environment:**

The steps being taken to rehabilitate the environment affected by closed coal mines in the state are as follows:

1. Reclamation of mined out areas.
2. Development of Eco-Parks and plantation on backfilled area.
3. Development of Amrit Sarovar and water reservoir in the mine void.

**(II) Communities:**

The steps being taken to rehabilitate the communities affected by closed coal mines in the State are as follows:

1. Coal companies provide Rehabilitation (Employment) & Resettlement benefits as per R&R Policy of 1989 & 2006 of Govt. of Odisha as applicable to the eligible displaced/affected families.
2. Employment is provided to the displaced/affected families either in the same mine for which the land is acquired, in other operational mines, or in other establishments, based on availability.

3. In case of closure of a particular mine, the existing manpower are transferred/ accommodated in other running mines or establishments of the company as per vacancy.

(c): As per guidelines on Mining Plan (including Mine Closure) dated 29.05.2020 issued by Ministry Coal, Mine closure plans are examined periodically in every five-year period by third party monitoring audit agencies approved by the Central government. Coal Controller Organization (CCO) considers/processes the proposal of the project proponent for reimbursement of expenditure incurred towards mine closure activities, subjected to third party monitoring by the agencies approved by the Central Government. The mine owner submits quarterly report and yearly report of work done towards closure to the Coal Controller Organization as per applicable guidelines.

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