

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1792
ANSWERED ON 17.03.2025

Evaluation of coal and lignite mines

1792. Shri Anil Kumar Yadav Mandadi:

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

- (a) whether Government is regularly evaluating all operating coal and lignite mines based on their performance in complying with rules and regulations related to safety, environmental standards, rehabilitation of project-affected families, worker welfare, adoption of best mining practices, use of the latest and safest technologies, and economic performance;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is cancelling the mining licenses awarded to private coal mining companies which failed to comply with standards prescribed by Government during the last five years; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Government has issued Star Rating policy to evaluate all operating coal and lignite mines based on the performance of compliance with rules and regulations regarding safety, environment, rehabilitation of project affected families, welfare of workers, adoption of best mining practices, adoption of latest and safest technology, economic performance etc.

A web portal has been developed encompassing seven modules for Underground (UG), Opencast (OC), and mixed mines to evaluate each mine in a transparent manner. The portal comprises seven modules related to following parameters -Mine geometry, Environmental, Adoption of technology- best mining practices, Economic performance, Rehabilitation and resettlement, Employees welfare and Safety and security.

(c) & (d): *Clause 26.3.1 (h)* of the agreement executed between Ministry of Coal and successful bidder, prescribes that allocation of coal block may be terminated upon delay in achievement of the Efficiency Parameters (Milestones) by the Successful Bidder for more than three instances (in aggregate and not over a specified period) as provided in *Clause 10.3*. No mine has been terminated by the Ministry of Coal under the provision 26.3.1 (h) of the agreement.
