

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 40
ANSWERED ON 03.02.2025

Impact of coal mine closures on employment and livelihoods

40. Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:

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

- (a) whether Government has conducted or commissioned any studies to evaluate the impact of coal mine closures on employment and livelihoods across coal mining regions;
- (b) if so, the key findings of such studies, including the extent of employment loss and sectors most affected;
- (c) the alternative employment opportunities or livelihood support mechanisms being developed for individuals and communities affected by mine closures; and
- (d) whether any specific assistance program is being initiated are in place to address the socio-economic challenges faced by those who are impacted, with a focus on vulnerable groups such as women?

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

(a) & (b): No, as of now, no study has been done by Ministry of Coal to evaluate the impact of Coal Mine Closures on employment and livelihoods across Coal Mining Regions.

(c) & (d): Employees posted in a mine at the time of its closure are transferred to other mines/ areas/ subsidiaries as per requirement for their gainful utilization. Further, for the economic sustenance of the nearby populace including women, that is indirectly dependent on mining and allied activities, various Entrepreneurship Development Activities & Skill Development Training are being carried out by coal companies and also under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities.
