

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COAL

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 211**  
ANSWERED ON 02.02.2026

SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF COAL MINING IN  
ODISHA

211 DR. SASMIT PATRA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has assessed the socio-economic and environmental impact of coal mining in districts like Sundargarh and parts of the State of Odisha where affected communities report displacement, inadequate compensation and livelihood disruption;
- (b) the details of district-wise CSR expenditure, resettlement progress and employment generation by coal PSUs in the State of Odisha during the last five years; and
- (c) whether measures are being taken to address allegations of delayed compensation, pollution of water bodies and weak monitoring of mining activities that adversely affect tribal and forest-dependent households?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) The Government has a statutory mechanism in place to assess the socio-economic and environmental impacts of coal mining projects, including areas in the State of Odisha. Such assessments are undertaken as part of the regulatory approval process prior to commencement of mining activities.

In accordance with the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, environmental and social impact assessments are carried out for coal mining projects. These assessments are based on baseline surveys of the project area and form the basis for preparation of the Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Management Plan, which address potential impacts on environment, land use, water resources and local communities.

The appraisal process includes public consultations, wherein concerns of local communities relating to displacement, livelihood and environmental issues are heard and considered. Environmental and forest impact assessments are undertaken by the project proponent, and compliance with stipulated conditions is monitored by the concerned regulatory authorities,

including the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and State Pollution Control Boards.

Issues relating to land acquisition, compensation, rehabilitation and livelihood restoration are addressed in accordance with applicable laws and policies. Project proponents implement rehabilitation and resettlement measures as per the relevant statutory framework, and compensation is extended to affected families following due process and oversight by competent authorities.

(b) Coal PSUs, namely CIL, NLCIL and SCCL, under the administrative control of the Ministry of Coal, are operating in the State of Odisha and are undertaking CSR activities in their respective operational districts. Land acquisition and rehabilitation is being done as per the relevant statutory framework and these PSUs are taking measures for resettlement and employment generation in their respective operational districts. The district-wise details of CSR expenditure, resettlement progress and employment provided during the last five years are as under:

A. CSR Expenditure (Approximate Amount in ₹ Cr.):

| Year           | 2020-21      | 2021-22      | 2022-23      | 2023-24    | 2024-25      |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Angul          | 45.6         | 29.5         | 55           | 36.1       | 140.7        |
| Jharsuguda     | 16.9         | 24.3         | 58.7         | 33.7       | 27.5         |
| Sambalpur      | 13.7         | 16.4         | 64.6         | 49.9       | 15           |
| Sundargarh     | 9.2          | 13.9         | 31.3         | 16.9       | 25.6         |
| Rest of Odisha | 126          | 176.4        | 37.7         | 42.3       | 26.1         |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>211.3</b> | <b>260.5</b> | <b>247.2</b> | <b>179</b> | <b>234.9</b> |

B. Resettlement and Employment Provided (in numbers):

| YEAR  | TALCHER          |                | JHARSUGUDA       |                | SUNDERGARH       |                | SAMBALPUR        |                |
|-------|------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
|       | Resettle<br>ment | Employ<br>ment | Resettle<br>ment | Employ<br>ment | Resettle<br>ment | Employ<br>ment | Resettle<br>ment | Employ<br>ment |
| 21-22 | 496              | 236            | 2                | 72             | 152              | 16             | 0                | 192            |
| 22-23 | 536              | 327            | 0                | 166            | 0                | 31             | 0                | 46             |
| 23-24 | 894              | 200            | 194              | 56             | 0                | 67             | 0                | 56             |
| 24-25 | 875              | 246            | 16               | 74             | 0                | 12             | 149              | 29             |
| 25-26 | 43               | 190            | 126              | 116            | 311              | 44             | 71               | 140            |
| Total | 2844             | 1199           | 338              | 484            | 463              | 170            | 220              | 463            |

(c) Coal PSUs are taking measures to address concerns relating to compensation, environmental protection and monitoring of mining activities, including in areas inhabited by tribal and forest-dependent households under the robust statutory and administrative framework.

All coal mining projects are operated only after obtaining the requisite Environmental Clearance (EC), Forest Clearance (FC) and statutory consents from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) and the concerned State authorities. Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies are carried out prior to grant of EC, which include assessment of impacts on air, water, soil, forest cover and biodiversity, along with specific mitigation measures such as dust suppression systems, water management arrangements, noise control measures and green belt development plans. Further, project proponents are mandatorily required to submit half-yearly compliance reports on the stipulated EC conditions through the PARIVESH portal. The Compliance & Monitoring Division (C&MD) of MoEF&CC, supported by its Regional Offices and Sub-Regional Offices, undertakes inspections and ground-level reviews to ensure compliance with prescribed conditions.

Water pollution control and environmental management measures include construction of Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs) for treatment and reuse of vehicle washing effluents, treatment and reuse of wastewater from wheel washing systems, provision of garland drains around overburden dumps, coal stock areas and topsoil stacks, and reuse of collected surface runoff for dust suppression, washing and plantation purposes. Rainwater collected in mine pits is also being utilized for dust suppression and plantation activities. Sewage generated from offices and mine areas is being disposed of through septic tank and soak pit systems in accordance with approved statutory norms. In addition, regular cleaning and rejuvenation of water bodies are carried out in coordination with the District Administration. In compliance with Forest Clearance conditions, schemes are being implemented in coordination with the Forest Department for de-siltation of village ponds and creation of water conservation and soil and moisture conservation structures in nearby forest and peripheral areas, so as to mitigate any adverse impact on local water resources.

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