

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2420
ANSWERED ON- 10.08.2026**

**DISTRICT ECONOMIC TRANSITION PLAN BEFORE THE CESSATION OF COAL
PRODUCTION**

2420 # SMT. MAHUA MAJI:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any national mechanism to assess the employment, local trade, and revenue dependence of the respective district five or ten years prior to the closure of coal mines;
- (b) whether there is a proposal to make a mandatory 'Pre-Closure District Economic Transition Plan for each coal-dependent district; and
- (c) whether such a plan would be implemented as a pilot project in the coal-rich districts of Jharkhand for alternative industries, skill development, and local employment generation before the closure of mines?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL & MINES
(SHRI SATISH CHANDRA DUBEY)**

(a): Ministry of Coal has issued Guidelines for Preparation of Mining Plan and Mine Closure Plan for Coal and Lignite blocks 2025 dated 31st January, 2025. Para 3.2.2 of these guidelines stipulate that the mining company should determine a Zone of Impact for mine closure as part of the Social Impact Assessment study, which shall include areas that are directly or indirectly dependent on the mine/cluster of mines, where income and livelihood of the workers and the local community will be affected by such closure. Under these guidelines, the project proponent of a coal mine is required to submit a 5-yearly report, outlining the initiatives to enhance skills, livelihoods, living conditions and sustain the livelihoods of the affected communities within the vicinity of the mine.

(b) & (c): The aforementioned guidelines issued by the Ministry of Coal provide that a corpus from 10 per cent of the balance deposited amount from final mine closure cost is to be created towards Just Transformation. This amount may be utilized for socio-transition after the closure of the mine in consultation with the district administration, local authority and stakeholders for skill development, sustained livelihood and employment generation. These guidelines are applicable to all coal mines of India, including those of Jharkhand.
