

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2463
ANSWERED ON 10/08/2026

USE OF WATER FROM ABANDONED MINES AS WATER RESOURCE

2463 # SMT. MAHUA MAJI:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been any national mapping of the quantity, quality and potable and irrigation usability of water accumulated in the country's closed and abandoned mines;
- (b) whether there is a proposal to develop a mine water resource grid for the use of such water after scientific treatment; and
- (c) whether a pilot project will be initiated to link the water from abandoned mines in the State of Jharkhand's water-scarce mining areas to rural drinking water and irrigation systems?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL AND MINES
(SHRI SATISH CHANDRA DUBEY)

- (a) There is no nationwide mapping for assessing the quantity, quality and suitability of water accumulated in closed and abandoned mines for potable or irrigation purposes. However, Coal and Lignite Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), namely Coal India Limited (CIL), NLC India Limited (NLCIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL), assess availability and quality of mine water as per their operational requirements and for gainful utilization of surplus mine water. Mine water is utilized for own industrial purposes and supplied to nearby communities for irrigation and domestic use after appropriate treatment.
- (b) There is no proposal under consideration for the development of a national Mine Water Resource Grid for the utilization of scientifically treated mine water.
- (c) At present, there is no proposal under consideration for linking water from abandoned mines in Jharkhand with rural drinking water and irrigation systems.
