

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1534
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.12.2017**

Unsafe Coal Mines

†1534. SHRI BHARAT SINGH:
SHRI MANSHANKAR NINAMA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided to close down coal mines in the country which have been declared as unsafe;
(b) if so, the State-wise number of such coal mines; and
(c) the steps being taken by the Government to improve security in mining operations?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF COAL AND RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a)&(b): As informed by Coal India Ltd. (CIL), it has envisaged to close down 37 unsafe underground (UG) mines in 2017-18. The State-wise number of such coal mines are as under:

No of Mines	State	Under Command Area
5	W.B	ECL
2	Jharkhand	BCCL
10	Jharkhand	CCL
05	Maharashtra	WCL
05	M.P	
07	Chhattisgarh	SECL
03	M.P	

Out of these 37 UG mines, 28 mines are of High Risk and the rest 9 are of Moderate Risk categories. Further, out of these, production from 27 mines have been stopped till date.

(c): Apart from the provisions as mandated by the Mines Act, Regulations and Rules thereunder, the following steps being taken by Coal India Limited (CIL) to avoid mine accidents and to improve the standard of safety:

1. Safety Audit of all operating mines of Coal India Ltd. (CIL) through multi-disciplinary Inter-Company Safety Audit teams in 2017.
2. Online Centralized Safety Monitoring System "CIL Safety Information System (CSIS)" developed and uploaded in CIL website.

3. Imparting Specialized Training by SIMTARS, Australia on Risk Assessment to prepare Risk assessment based Safety Management Plans (SMPs), Principal Hazards Management Plans (PHMPs) and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).
4. Establishment of Geo-Technical Cell in all subsidiaries
5. Site-specific risk assessment based SMPs prepared for each mine of CIL. All SMPs are being monitored through ISO of each subsidiary.
6. Principal Hazards Management Plans (PHMP) formulated as a part of SMP.
7. Site-specific, Risk Assessment based Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for all Mining and Allied operations framed and implemented.
8. Assessment of stability of OB Dumps and Benches conducted thoroughly by using expertise of CMPDIL and multi-disciplinary ISO teams in most of the opencast mines.
9. Introduction of Gas Chromatograph for better accuracy in mine air sampling and Man-Riding system in UG mines having arduous travel.
10. Introduction of simulators based training to Dumper Operators, high mast towers for increasing level of illumination, deployment of Surface Miners for blast free mining, proximity warning devices, rear view camera, automatic fire detection in dumpers etc.
