

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 828  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2018**

**Illegal Mining and Theft in Various Coal Mines**

**828. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:**

Will the Minister of Coal be pleased to state:

- (a) whether illegal mining and theft in various coal mines is on the rise in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of illegal mining and theft cases registered during each of the last three years and the current year, Statewise; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to detect and prevent illegal mining and theft in the coal mines of the country?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COAL**

**(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)**

(a) to (c) : As per information received from Coal India Limited (CIL), theft / pilferage and illegal mining of coal is carried out stealthily and clandestinely, as such, it is not possible to specify the exact quantum of coal stolen and losses incurred on account of theft / pilferage and illegal mining of coal.

However, as per raids conducted by security personnel as well as joint raids with the law and order authorities of the concerned State Government, the quantity of coal recovered and its approximate value during the last three years and the current year are as under:

**ILLEGAL MINING AND THEFT/PILFERAGE OF COAL IN CIL:-**

	2014-15		2015-16		2016-17		2017-18 (upto Nov'17) (Provisional)	
	Qty. Recovered (te)	Approx. Value (Rs. Lakh)	Qty. Recovered (te)	Approx. Value (Rs. Lakh)	Qty. Recovered (te)	Approx. Value (Rs. Lakh)	Qty. Recovered (te)	Approx. Value (Rs. Lakh)
Illegal Mining	173.75	2.245	112.77	5.560	1292.40	62.620	73.00	2.408
Theft/ Pilferage	19623.16	711.570	20428.89	937.110	25296.16	1157.556	10199.46	475.199

**FIRS LODGED IN CASE OF ILLEGAL MINING AND THEFT/PILFERAGE OF COAL STATE-WISE**

State	2014-15		2015-16		2016-17		2017-18 (upto Nov'17) (Provisional)	
	Illegal Mining	Theft/Pilferage	Illegal Mining	Theft/Pilferage	Illegal Mining	Theft/Pilferage	Illegal Mining	Theft/Pilferage
WB	2	27	17	116	8	241	37	99
Jharkhand	4	22	1	30	8	45	14	24
UP	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Maharashtra	0	13	0	6	0	19	0	9
MP	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	1
Chattisgarh	0	1	0	6	0	1	0	1
Orissa	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	0
Assam	1	66	0	35		31	0	16
Coal India	7	135	18	193	16	341	51	150

(d) : Law & Order is a State subject, hence primarily it is the responsibility of the State/District administration to take necessary deterrent action to stop/curb illegal mining, theft / pilferage of coal etc.

**Illegal mining of coal:** Following suitable steps are being taken where ever illegal mining of coal takes place:

- (i) Rat holes created by illegal mining are being dozed off and filled up with stone and debris wherever possible.
- (ii) Concrete walls have been erected on the mouth of the abandoned mines to prevent access and illegal activities in these areas.
- (iii) Surprise raids/checks being conducted jointly by security personnel and law and order authorities of the concerned State Government.
- (iv) Fencing is being constructed at the various illegal mining sites along with displaying of signboards mentioning "Dangerous and Prohibited Place."
- (v) Collection of intelligence reports about illegal coal depots and illegal movement of coal and informing district authorities of the same for taking preventive action.
- (vi) Installation of check-posts at vulnerable points to check transport documents;
- (vii) The coal companies maintain close liaison with the State authorities.
- (viii) Committee/task force has been constituted at different level (block level, sub-divisional level, district level, state level) in some subsidiaries of CIL to monitor different aspects of illegal mining.

**Theft / pilferage of coal:** Following steps are taken to check such incidents—

- i. Radio-Frequency Identification Device (RFID) based Boom Barriers and CCTV camera at weighbridges, GPRS based vehicle tracking system with geofencing, CCTV camera at strategic locations of all mines have been installed.
- ii. Regular FIRs are lodged by the Colliery Management and CISF with local Thana. A close watch on the activities of criminals is being kept by CISF.
- iii. Interaction and liaison with District officials at regular intervals and holding meeting with DC & other District Administrative Officials.
- iv. Challans for coal transportation by trucks outside the district are being issued after fixing hologram and putting signatures of authorized officials of CISF to check pilferage.
- v. Armed Guards have been deployed at Railway sidings.
- vi. Escorting of coal rakes in coordination with RPF upto weighbridge, is arranged in pilferage prone areas.
- vii. Surprise re-weighment of coal loaded trucks is done at weighbridges.
- viii. Surprise checks / raids are conducted by flying squads of CISF/security department.
- ix. Regular patrolling is conducted in and around the mine including OB dumps.
- x. Joint patrolling with local police is also being carried out in pilferage prone areas.

- xi. Check posts have been established at entry / exit points where all coal laden vehicles are physically checked.
- xii. Security at coal dumps has been strengthened by fencing, proper illumination and round the clock guarding.

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