

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1824**

TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd JULY, 2019

Assessment of Safety and Security in Coal Mines

1824. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
DR. HEENA GAVIT:
SHRI SUNIL DATTATRAY TATKARE:
SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA:
DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE:
DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- a. whether the CIL and its subsidiaries are availing services of different security agencies to assess safety and security in coal mines across the country and if so, the details thereof;
- b. whether the Government has conducted Safety Audit in all coal mines of Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries;
- c. if so, the details thereof along with the criteria fixed and the assessment made by the Safety Audit team;
- d. the deficiencies identified during the Safety Audit and the action taken by the Government to rectify the deficiencies; and
- e. the further steps taken/being taken by the Government to improve safety standard of coal mines in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, COAL AND MINES (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)

Reply (a) : Coal India Ltd. (CIL) and its subsidiaries are availing security services to assess safety and security in coal mines across the country are as under :

Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL): ECL avails the services of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Jharkhand state Home Guards, Contractual Security over and above the departmental Security which is existing for the services of security of the mines only.

South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (SECL): The Departmental security personnel, contractual security personnel deployed by the Security Agencies sponsored by Director General Resettlement (DGR), MoD, New Delhi and the Home Guard personnel from Chhattisgarh State are deployed based on the Security assessment undertaken by SECL management from time to time.

Western Coalfields Ltd.(WCL): WCL is availing the services of CISF securing Mines/ Magazines in Pench and Kanhan and services of Maharashtra State Security Corporation for providing security cover to Explosive Magazines in Maharashtra Region of WCL.

Northern Coalfields Limited NCL: In NCL, the following security agencies are deployed for security of coal mines and explosive magazines :

- I. CISF has been deployed for security of Amlohri project and two centralized explosive magazines located at Bina and Jayant (Total 428Nos. of CISF personnel).
- II. DGR sponsored security personnel are deployed for security of all mining projects/units of NCL Singrauli (Total 1637 Nos. of DGR Sponsored security personnel).

Central Coalfields Ltd. (CCL): CCL has engaged various Agencies for Security of Coal Mines. These are – CISF, SISF (State Industrial Security Force), Jharkhand State Home Guards.

Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. (BCCL): Assessment of security in coal mines in BCCL was conducted jointly by CISF & BCCL management during Re-survey,2006.

Mahanade Coalfields Ltd. (MCL): In MCL 14 (Fourteen) DGR sponsored security agencies are engaged for providing security cover in the areas and establishments of MCL.

North Eastern Coalfields (NEC): At NEC DGR sponsored Security Agency is being deployed.

Coal India Lid. (CIL): At CIL, Departmental and Private Security Agencies are engaged.

Reply (b): Yes, Safety Audit conducted for all producing mines of Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries for the 2018-19 by multi-disciplinary Inter Area Safety Audit teams from respective subsidiary company.

Reply (c): Brief details of safety audit of mines along with the criteria fixed are as under:

1. Safety Audit of mine is carried out through inter-area teams of the respective subsidiary company.
2. All teams are multi-disciplinary.
3. Audit methodology consists of inspection of mine, examination of all relevant documents pertaining to mine safety, scrutiny of Safety Management Plans (SMP) and previous safety audit conducted.
4. Major objective is to assess whether all mining operations are done as per provisions safety statutes and to identify deficiencies thereof, if any.
5. To review the various systems are adopted and followed for mine safety.
6. To suggest / recommend the areas of improvement.

Reply (d): Mine-specific deficiencies, if exists, are identified during the said Safety Audit. Deficiencies are absolutely mine-specific and varies in each mine. Based on deficiencies observed, appropriate actions, as deemed fit, are taken.

Reply (e): Apart from complying the statutory safety provisions as laid down in the Mines Act, 1952 and the Coal Mine Regulations- 1957 and Bye laws & Standing Order framed there under, the following steps are 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. 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.
