

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 131
ANSWERED ON 07.12.2022

Coal Mines

†131. **SHRIMATI GEETA KORA:**
MS. LOCKET CHATTERJEE:
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR PINTU:
SHRIMATI NAVNEET RAVI RANA:
SHRIMATI RITI PATHAK:
SHRI DILESHWAR KAMAIT:
SHRI RAMESH CHANDER KAUSHIK:
SHRI AJAY KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of Coal be pleased to state that:

- (a) whether the Government is considering to give final shape to the plan for closing down the coal mines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the State-wise details of the coal mines closed during the last three years;
- (d) whether the Government has taken steps for ensuring the continuation of the livelihood of the persons dependent directly or indirectly on the mines closed due to exhaustion of stocks, inappropriate mining conditions and safety related issues etc.; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): After 27.08.2009, coal mines are closed as per approved Mine Closure Plan and mines discontinued/abandoned/closed before 27.08.2009 will be closed as per the provisions contained in the "Guidelines for management of mines discontinued/abandoned/closed before the year 2009" issued by the Government on 28.10.2022.

(c): As per the existing Mine closure guidelines, after compliance of all mine closure activities in accordance with the approved mining plan, the mine owner has to obtain a mine closure certificate from Coal Controller. During the last three years, no mine of Coal India Ltd, Singareni Colliery

Company Ltd and NLC India Ltd has been closed as per the existing mine closure guidelines issued by Ministry of Coal.

(d) & (e): All the mine closure activities are undertaken by the project proponent as per the approved mining plan and guidelines issued on 28.10.2022. For implementation of mine closure activities, dedicated amount as mentioned in the guidelines is deposited in the escrow fund for the whole life the mine. As per the existing guidelines, Entrepreneurship development (vocational/skill development) Training is provided to affected people for sustainable income.

During the closure of a mine, the direct employees of coal companies are transferred to nearby coal mines for continuation of their livelihood. Since the mining activities continue at the newly opened mine in the adjacent areas of the closed mine, the indirect employees are also gainfully deployed in the adjacent mines for continuation of their livelihood.
