

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.41
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07/12/2022

CMDLD

41. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to ameliorate lung diseases collectively termed Coal Mine Dust Lung Disease (CMDLD) including Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis, silicosis, mixed dust pneumoconiosis, dust-related diffuse fibrosis and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) CIL and its subsidiaries have taken required steps to ameliorate coal mine dust lung diseases (CMDLD) including Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis (CWP). These are as under:

1. Adequate measures are taken to prevent generation, propagation and control of air borne coal dust in the mines and its surroundings as per various provisions made under relevant statutes.
2. Appropriate site specific dust suppression systems are also adopted in mines to keep mine environment dust free.
3. PME (Periodic Medical Examination) is done for all employees at regular interval at various PME centers of different subsidiaries of CIL.
4. Some patients with respiratory problems are treated at hospitals of CIL and other tertiary level empaneled hospitals.
5. Various camps are organized at regular interval at area level of subsidiaries to screen any Lungs disease in its early stage.
6. Preventive measures like distribution of anti-dust mask and other protective gears are distributed among employees regularly.
7. Provision of spirometry and chest x-ray imaging is available at various PME centers of the subsidiaries.
8. Time to time counseling and mental health sessions are organized for employees.
9. Pneumoconiosis board is being conducted in a regular interval on the suspected cases taking the help of specialist doctors (pulmonologists and radiologists) and ILO recommended X-ray plates are referred.
10. On confirmation of pneumoconiosis, the patients are offered alternative jobs and they are observed for disease progression in a regular interval.
