

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1634
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2022

ILLEGAL STORAGE AND MINING OF COAL

**1634. SHRI JUGAL KISHORE SHARMA:
SHRIMATI RITI PATHAK:
SHRIMATI GEETA KORA:
SHRIMATI NAVNEET RAVI RANA:
MS. LOCKET CHATTERJEE:
SHRI JYOTIRMAY SINGH MAHATO:
SHRI DILESHWAR KAMAIT:
SHRI CHANDAN SINGH:
SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI:**

Will the Minister of Coal be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any assessment/survey regarding the illegal storage and mining of coal;
- (b) if so, the State-wise/UT-wise details thereof particularly in respect of Maharashtra and West Bengal;
- (c) whether the Government has taken cognizance of illegal mining/theft/illegal possession of coal by the coal mafias in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is aware of coal theft in the districts of Maharashtra including Amravati Parliamentary Constituency and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the action being taken by the Government to stop the theft and illegal mining; and
- (f) whether the Government has taken any steps to check the illegal coal mining activities and to strengthen the information system related thereto and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) During the course of coal production by Coal India Limited, all statutory provisions under various Acts, Rules and Regulations are observed for conducting various activities. As such, there is no illegal mining in the lease-hold areas of Coal India Limited. However, illegal mining of coal is reported to be carried out mainly from abandoned mines, shallow coal seams situated at remote/isolated places. It is a Law & Order problem which is a State subject, hence primarily; falls under the domain of the State/District administration to take necessary deterrent action to stop/curb illegal mining of coal. Surprise

raids/checks/inspection are conducted by security personnel as well as jointly with law and order authorities of the concerned State Government.

(b) First Information Reports (FIRs) are lodged whenever any incident of Illegal mining of coal comes to the notice of the coal companies.

Number of FIR lodged in cases of illegal mining of coal during 2021-22, company-wise and State-wise is given below:

(Provisional)

Name of the Company	State	FIR lodged(2021-22)
ECL	WB	2
	Jharkhand	3
	Sub Total	5
BCCL	Jharkhand	0
	WB	0
	Sub Total	0
CCL	Jharkhand	5
NCL	MP	0
	UP	0
	Sub Total	0
WCL	Maharashtra	0
	MP	0
	Sub Total	0
SECL	MP	0
	Chhattisgarh	0
	Sub Total	0
MCL	Odisha	0
NEC	Assam	1
Coal India Limited		11

(c) Theft/pilferage/illegal mining of coal are carried out stealthily and clandestinely. As per raids conducted by security personnel of CIL 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 2021-22 in the subsidiary companies of Coal India Limited is as under:

(Provisional)

Co.	State	2021-22	
		Qty. Recovered (te)	Approx. Value (Rs. Lakh)
ECL	WB	9840.32	590.450
	Jharkhand	5245.72	314.680
	Sub Total	15086.04	905.130
BCCL	Jharkhand	11096.58	301.244
	WB	18.14	0.430
	Sub Total	11114.72	301.675
CCL	Jharkhand	1755.65	42.844
NCL	MP	0.00	0.000

	UP	25.05	0.561
	Sub Total	25.05	0.561
WCL	Maharashtra	311.68	11.354
	MP	0.00	0.000
	Sub Total	311.68	11.354
SECL	MP	67.77	1.683
	Chhattisgarh	0.05	0.005
	Sub Total	67.82	1.688
MCL	Odisha	132.56	4.182
NEC	Assam	0.00	0.000
Coal India Limited		28468.47	1266.872

Illegal mining of coal (Provisional)

Company	State	2021-22	
		Qty. recovered (te)	App. Value (Rs.Lakh)
ECL	WB	13.19	0.780
	Jharkhand	123.42	7.400
	Sub Total	136.61	8.180
BCCL	Jharkhand	0.00	0.000
	WB	0.00	0.000
	Sub Total	0.00	0.000
CCL	Jharkhand	29.00	0.904
NCL	UP/MP	0.00	0.000
WCL	Maharashtra	0.00	0.000
	MP	0.00	0.000
	Sub Total	0.00	0.000
SECL	MP	0.00	0.000
	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.000
	Sub Total	0.00	0.000
MCL	Odisha	0.00	0.000
NEC	Assam	0.00	0.000
Coal India Limited		165.61	9.084

(d) Theft/pilferage of coal are carried out stealthily and clandestinely. As per raids conducted by security personnel of CIL 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 2021-22 in the subsidiary company of Coal India Limited in the state of Maharashtra is as under:

Co.	State	2021-22	
		Qty. Recovered (te)	Approx. Value (Rs. Lakh)
WCL	Maharashtra	311.68	11.354

However, there is no report of coal theft in Amravati Parliamentary Constituency as per available records.

(e) Theft/pilferage/illegal mining of coal is a Law & Order problem which is a State subject, hence primarily; falls under the domain of the State/District administration to take necessary deterrent action to stop/curb theft/pilferage/illegal mining of coal.

The Management of subsidiary companies lodges FIR with local Thana to take necessary action.

Following Steps taken to check theft / pilferage of coal:

- RFID based Boom Barriers and CCTV camera at weighbridges, GPRS based vehicle tracking system with geofencing and CCTV camera at strategic locations installed in mines.
- 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.
- Interaction and liaison with District officials at regular intervals and holding meeting with Officials of the State Administration.
- 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.
- Armed Guards have been deployed at Railway sidings.
- Escorting of coal rakes in coordination with RPF upto weighbridge, is arranged in pilferage prone areas.
- Surprise re-weighment of coal loaded trucks is done at weighbridges.
- Surprise checks / raids are conducted by flying squads of CISF/security department.
- Regular patrolling is conducted in and around the mine including OB dumps.
- Joint patrolling with local police is also being carried out in pilferage prone areas.
- Check posts have been established at entry / exit points where all coal laden vehicles are physically checked.
- Security at coal dumps has been strengthened by fencing, proper illumination and round the clock guarding.

Following steps taken to check Illegal mining of coal:

- Concrete walls have been erected on the mouth of the abandoned mines to prevent access and illegal activities in these areas.
- Surprise raids/checks being conducted jointly by security personnel and law and order authorities of the concerned State Government.
- Dumping of the overburden is being done on the outcrop zones.
- Installation of check-posts at vulnerable points.
- Training of existing security/CISF personnel, refresher training and basic training of new recruits in security discipline for strengthening the security setup.
- Maintaining close liaison with the State authorities.
- 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.

- The Government of India has launched one mobile app namely “*Khanan Prahari*” and one web app *Coal Mine Surveillance and Management System (CMSMS)* for reporting unauthorized coal mining activities so that monitoring and taking suitable action on it can be done by Law & Order authorities.

(f) Besides the above mobile app ‘Khanan Prahari’ and web app ‘CMSMS’, status of CCTV Surveillance & GPS based VTS System – Subsidiary-wise of CIL are given below:

Subsidiary company	Total CCTV Cameras implemented at -	Number of vehicles deployed with GPS based VTS System
	a. Vulnerable locations viz Weighbridges, Sidings, Workshop, Offices & Stores b. Coal Stocks	
MCL	989	2714
CCL	1693	3150
NCL	1347	506
WCL	613	1037
BCCL	602	552
ECL	1294	1035
SECL	1308	1125
TOTAL	7846	10119
