

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3211
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2025

Health Scheme for Retired Employees of SCCL

3211. Dr. Kadiyam Kavya:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Coal India Limited (CIL) has implemented a contributory post-retirement health scheme for its retired employees;
- (b) if so, whether Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) has also proposed a similar scheme and if so, the current status of its implementation, particularly in light of the 2018 scheme circular aimed at covering 32,000 retired employees; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Ministry to expedite the implementation of this scheme in SCCL, ensuring relief to retired employees and addressing any challenges that may have contributed to delays so far?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a): Yes sir, contributory post-retirement health scheme for retired employees of Coal India Limited, CIL (Both executives & Non-executives) has been implemented.

(b): Yes sir, Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) has introduced a contributory post-retirement health scheme for its retired employees on similar lines as in CIL w.e.f. 01.04.2018 and the scheme is called Contributory Post Retirement Medicare Scheme for Non Executives (CPRMS-NE) covering all the retired employees spanning nearly 42000 retired Non-Executive Cadre Employees. Membership in the scheme is as per the respective eligibility criteria. The scheme in SCCL is similar to that of CIL and the same has been formulated basing on the implementation instructions received from the standardization committee recommendations of Joint Bipartite Committee for the Coal Industry (JBCCI) for National Coal Wage Agreement (NCWA-X). In line with guidelines of the scheme, a Statutory Trust has been established under the Indian Trusts' Act, 1882 and the same is entrusted with the duty of managing the fund (by way of contributions from Employees and corresponding allocation by Management) of the

scheme. The Medical cover in respect of the critical diseases is unlimited without making a dent in the approved limit.

Current Status of the Scheme: Medical Cards are being issued to the Non-Executive cadre employees on their retirement on Superannuation/ Medical Invalidation. Spouses are eligible to enrol in the scheme on the death of the ex-employee. At present, 41231 ex-employees have enrolled in the Scheme and are availing treatment for themselves and spouses through empanelled hospitals.

A separate scheme for the benefit of Executive employees has been introduced by both the companies CIL & SCCL w.e.f. 01.01.2007. The Contributory Post Retirement Medicare Scheme for Executive Employees is implemented as part of Superannuation Benefit as guaranteed to all the Executive employees in 2nd Pay Revision Committees (PRC) drawn from the essence of Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) Guidelines. The cost incurred for treating the 5 critical diseases is unlimited and will not attract any deduction from the guaranteed benefit. Apart from the above, the members are also entitled for the OPD/domiciliary treatment expenditure reimbursement irrespective of Single/ Couple Membership.

(c): The scheme is being implemented successfully without causing any challenges to the retired employees. For the purpose of ensuring the retired employees to avail the opportunity to join the scheme, the scheme provision has been extended 13 times. The present extension is still active under CPRMS-NE and the last date to join the scheme is 31.03.2025. Further, in respect of CPRMS-E membership there is no last/ due date fixed for availing membership into the scheme, they can join the scheme whenever they want to, on payment of prescribed contribution amount and on fulfilling the other eligibility criteria.
