

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COAL**

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. \*142  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.07.2025**

**Dumping of Coal Mine Waste**

\*142. Shri Pradyut Bordoloi:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the dumping of coal mining waste in the Tikak Colliery Area of Ledo by North Eastern Coalfields Coal India Limited (NEC CIL) alongwith the land occupied by dumping grounds and the quantity of waste dumped there and the number of families affected therefrom;

(b) whether Coal India Limited (CIL) has plans to construct any new coal dumping grounds in Tinsukia district and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether NEC CIL's Grievance Complaints and Redressal Cell has received complaints regarding the expansion of dumping grounds in Ledo and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether CIL has conducted surveys to assess the impact of coal dumping from its mines in Ledo and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the mitigation measures put in place to prevent existing and proposed coal dumping grounds from affecting the region's environment?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF COAL & MINES  
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)**

**(a) to (e):** A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 142 TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.07.2025 ASKED BY SHRI PRADYUT BORDOLOI, HON'BLE M.P., REGARDING 'DUMPING OF COAL MINE WASTE'.**

(a): Tikak Extension Opencast (OC) is the only operating mine of North Eastern Coalfields (NEC), and the mining operation is carried out systematically and scientifically in accordance with the applicable Acts, Rules, and Regulations, including Environmental laws.

It is pertinent to inform that the mining operation of Tikak extension OC has been put to a complete halt w.e.f. 01.06.2025 due to the non-availability of dumping space. The matter has been intimated to the State Government.

The land for the overburden dump of Tikak Extension OCP, belongs to Coal India Limited. No Objection Certificate for the land for overburden dumping of Tikak Extension OCP has been obtained by NEC from the District Administration of Tinsukia.

The area covered by the overburden dumping ground of Tikak Extension OCP as per project report is about 51.91 hectares. The total quantity of overburden/coal mining waste dumped in the designated dump till date is approximately, 8 Million Cubic Meters.

Around 292 families have encroached on the designated overburden dumping ground of Tikak Extension OCP. The encroachers or non-legal title holders cannot be categorized as 'affected family' for extending necessary resettlement or rehabilitation benefits/relief under the Rehabilitation & Resettlement Policy of Coal India Limited as well as under the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition , Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act 2013 ( RFCT&LARR Act, 2013).

(b): Coal India Limited has no plan to construct any new coal dumping grounds in Tinsukia district.

(c): NEC/ CIL has not received any complaints under the Grievance Complaints and Redressal Cell. However, in connection with the overburden dumping issue of Tikak Extension OCP, NEC/CIL has received Notices/Orders from:

1. Hon'ble National Human Rights Commission, dated 07.11.2024.
2. Hon'ble Assam Human Rights Commission, dated 17.01.2025
3. Hon'ble National Commission for Scheduled tribes, dated 28.01.2025

NEC has submitted appropriate replies to the above-mentioned Hon'ble Commissions.

(d): The mining activities in Tikak Extension OCP was started after obtaining Environmental Clearance from Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), for which an Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Management Plan report was prepared and submitted to MoEF&CC during Environmental Clearance.

(e): Mitigation measures implemented to minimize the environmental impact of coal dumping grounds include:-

1. The effluent water generated from Tikak Extension Open Cast Project has been treated to meet the discharge standards notified by the various Authorities, such as the Central Pollution Control Board/ State Pollution Control Board/ Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change. The same report is submitted to State Pollution Control Board, Assam and regional office of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.
2. The OB dump of Tikak Extension OC is done scientifically based on scientific studies that were carried out to ensure slope stability. The OB dumping is done as per dumping schedule of the project report and the construction of retaining toe wall around the dump is done to prevent washing away of overburden and shall continue as the dumping progresses.
3. Third party evaluation of the Environmental Quality and status of the mine by NEC/CIL along with monitoring of species of fishes in nearby rivers is done by reputed Institute of Excellence to ensure that there is no damage to environment and public health.

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