

Unsafe Coalfield Pits

8256. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of West Bengal have sent any proposal to the Union Government for Central Assistance for filling up 34 unsafe coalfield pits at Raniganj;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have approved the said proposal of the State Government; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government of West Bengal have written to the Ministry of Coal for taking subsidence control measures in subsidence prone areas in Raniganj coalfield.

As is already well known, the problem of subsidence arose from unscientific coal mining carried out under shallow surface cover in the period prior to nationalisation of coal mines. The areas affected by subsidence, including subsidence prone areas, need attention and anti-subsidence measures have to be taken up.

For actual implementation of subsidence control measures, active association of the State Government/District authorities is essential in dealing inter-alia with the problem of shifting and re-location of the population living in the unsafe areas. It is in this background and for creation of an institutional arrangement of dealing with the problem in totality that it was suggested to the Government of West Bengal that the existing Asansol Durgapur Development Authority (ADDA) which was set up under the Town and Country (Planning and Development) Act, 1979 of West Bengal could be strengthened and authorised as the executing agency for the restoration works. It was also suggested that technical input for survey, planning, designing and preparation of schemes/projects would be provided by Coal India Ltd. / Eastern Coalfields Ltd. by placing technical personnel at ADDA.

Pending decision on the strengthening of ADDA, Eastern Coalfields Limited has taken up two pilot projects for developing a suitable technique through application of hydro pneumatics and storing for stabilisation of subsidence prone areas. Another two projects on similar lines are contemplated. These are only experimental projects to develop the technology. There is no plan at present to cover the remaining 34 areas.

[Translation]

Profit to Coal Companies

8257. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of profit earned by the various coal companies during 1993-94 and 1994-95, company-wise; and

(b) the total amount of royalty paid to Bihar during 1993-94 and 1994-95 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) Profit earned or loss incurred by subsidiaries of Coal India Limited during 1994-95 can be indicated after finalisation of accounts. Details of profit earned/loss incurred by Coal India Limited and its subsidiary companies during 1993-94 (after coal price regulation account adjustments) are as under : —

		(Rs. in crores)
Company	(+) Profit/(-) Loss	
1. Eastern Coalfields Limited	(-) 70.40	
2. Bharat Coking Coal Limited	(+) 21.56	
3. Central Coalfields Limited	(+) 62.06	
4. Northern Coalfields Limited	(+) 225.23	
5. Western Coalfields Limited	(+) 31.59	
6. South Eastern Coalfields Limited	(+) 139.84	
7. Mahanadi Coalfields Limited	(+) 21.27	
8. Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Limited	(+) 2.64	
9. Coal India Limited (Dankuni Coal Complex)	(-) 33.47	
	(+) 400.32	

(b) Amount of royalty paid during 1993-94 and 1994-1995 by Coal India Limited group of companies to Government of Bihar was as under : —

Year	(Rs. in crores)
1993-94	555.05
1994-95	588.12

River Water Projects

8258. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any Build-Operate-Lease-Transfer scheme for river water projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.