

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:885
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2001
ILLEGAL COAL MINES
P. RAJENDRAN

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether illegal coal mines are in operation in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or propose to be taken by the Government to tackle such mining and to ensure the securities of the workers in these coal mines ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN)

(a) Illegal mining activities, in the nature of surreptitious extraction and pilferage of coal from abandoned, closed and dis-used mines and also from outcrop regions have been reported from coal mining areas of ECL, BCC Land CCL, having their coal mines in erstwhile Bihar (now Jharkhand) and West Bengal.

(b) Whenever any case of illegal mining is detected in the leasehold area of the coal companies, FIRs are filed with the respective police station and such cases are pursued with the law enforcing authorities. Cases of illegal mining if detected outside the leasehold areas of the nationalised coal companies are promptly informed to the concerned state administration for appropriate action. CIL is vigilant about illegal mining in disused workings.