

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6296
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2003
SUBSIDENCE IN ABANDONED MINE OF GAURI PROJECT
BASUDEB ACHARIA

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there was subsidence in the abandoned mine of Gauri Project in EJA of Bharat Coking Coal Limited on 9.1.2003;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof;
- (c) whether one person was rescued but several remained buried under debris;
- (d) if so, the facts thereof;
- (e) whether it is a fact that no step was taken to bring out those persons dead or alive despite the agitation to this effect;
- (f) if so, the reasons therefore;
- (g) whether it is a fact that the BCCL did not take step as per the coal Mines Regulation for the abandoned mines; and
- (h) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA)

(a) & (b): No, Sir. There was no subsidence in the abandoned mine of Gauri project in EJ area of BharatCoking Coal Limited on 9.1.2003. In fact there was roof fall in the abandoned Gauri Gram mine in EJ area of Bharat CokingCoal Limited on 8-1-2003 due to illegal mining.

(c) to (f): As per the request of the District Administration Bokaro District, BCCL management carried out rescue & recovery operations. The management of EJ area, BCCL arranged for Cap Lamps, persons trained in support and cleaning of falls and team of rescue workers from Rescue Room of Sudamdih mine.

The rescue operation was conducted under the direction and in presence of police officials, District Mining Officer of Bokaro District and villagers.

During rescue/recovery operations, one person who was buried under the debris was found alive and handed over to Bokaro Police. No other dead body or part of human body was found in the debris in the area covered by the fall.

(g): BCCL management had taken steps as per the Coal Mines Regulation for the abandoned mines.

(h): Does not arise in view of reply given to part (g) above.