

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6310
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2003
ILLEGAL EXTRACTION OF COAL
RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the illegal extraction of coal in Bermo coal belt under the Bokaro District in Jharkhand;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the said illegal extraction has resulted in a tunnel beneath the railway line;
- (d) if so, whether the Government have conducted/propose to conduct any inquiry into the alleged illegal extraction of coal in the Bermo Koyalanchal; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA)

(a) & (b): Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) is aware of illegal extraction of coal being done in Bermo Coalbelt under Bokaro District of Jharkhand. This illegal extraction has been reported in the lease hold and acquired land in the mines under Kathara, B&K and Dhori areas. It is carried out by outsiders who enter the areas forcefully. It is a law and order problem which is tackled with active support of the State administration.

(c) : The aforesaid illegal extractions has resulted in a cavity beneath railway line in an old mine in B&K area of CCL. To prevent illegal extraction of coal in the aforesaid mine where illegal extraction of coal resulted in formation of cavity beneath the railway line, the old entries beneath the railway track have long been back-filled by fly ash and the surroundings have also been packed by covering it by 1 (one) metre soil for plantation. A team of central railway visited the site recently and found the operations satisfactory.

(d) & (e): As soon as any incidence of illegal mining comes to the notice of Central Coalfields Limited, FIRs are lodged with the police in order to prevent such illegal activity. A task force was constituted by D.C., Bokaro in a meeting held with General Managers of the three areas, Dhori, B&K and Kathara; Director Mines Safety, Koderma region and senior state officials for inspection of sites of illegal mining and to suggest / recommend measures to prevent illegal mining. District Collector, Bokaro is monitoring the steps taken to prevent illegal mining by conducting regular meeting with general managers of the areas. Intensive patrolling by security / police and CISF is done to detect and prevent illegal mining activities in the said location. CCL officials in association with Director General, Mines & Safety and high level state officials keep surveillance on the sites prone to illegal mining.