

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1325
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2001
CLOSURE OF MINES UNDER ECL
CHANDRA NATH SINGH

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of mines in operation and closed down under the Eastern Coal Fields limited at present, State-wise;
- (b) the reasons for their closure;
- (c) whether any foreign country, especially China has proposed to extend technical/ financial assistance for the revival of ECL ; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the assistance likely to be provided to ECL?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL (SHRI SPED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN)

(a) : As on 1.4.2001, the number of mines in operation and closed down (since nationalisation) under the Eastern Coalfields Limited, State wise, are as under :-

	West Bengal	Jharkhand	Total
Number of mines in operation		96	18 114
Number of mines closed		57	08 65

(b) Major reasons for closure of mines are :

- i) Exhaustion of mineable reserves,
- ii) Safety consideration,
- iii) Techno Economic unviability,
- iv) Fire/ Inundation.

(c) : No, Sir.

(d) : Does not arise in view of the answer to part (c) of the question.