

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:128
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2001
INCIDENTS OF FIRE IN COAL MINES
P.D. ELANGO VAN;SHANKERSINH VAGHEL A

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a): the number of fire incidents in coal mines during 2000-2001 till date, State-wise, company-wise, mine-wise, especially in NLC and CCL mines;
- (b): the loss of life and property suffered therein in term of quantity and value;
- (c): the compensation/job given to the dependents of the deceased;
- (d): whether inquiries have been conducted to ascertain the causes of aforesaid fires;
- (e): if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (f): the action taken on the basis of those inquiry reports?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred to in parts (a) to (f) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 128 for 31.07.2001 regarding Incidents of Fire in Coal Mines.

(a) There were three incidences of fire during 2000-2001 and till date. Details are as under:

COMPANY	STATE	MINE
WCL	MAHARASTRA	INDER
ECL	JHARKHAND	CHITRA OCP
NCL	UTTAR PRADESH	BINA OCP
NLC	TAMILNADU	NIL#

There was no incidence of fire in lignite mines of NLC during the year 2000-01.

However, there is one incident of electrical flash in the slip-ring of one of the 700 L.BWE in Mine-II in May, 2000 which was immediately put off.

- (b) Inder mine - there was no loss of life or property.
- Chitra OCP - There was no loss of life. There was loss of Rs. 40 lacs due to damage to a shovel.
- Bina CHP - There was no loss of life. There was loss of Rs. 8.44 lacs.
- NLC mine - There was no loss of life. The material damages in case of electrical flash in May, 2000 have been claimed with insurance and a settlement has been arrived at for Rs. 6.00 lacs.

(c) Not applicable in view of reply to part 'b' above.

(d) Inder mine - Enquiry has been conducted.
Chitra OCP - Enquiry has been started and is in progress.
Bina CHP - Enquiry has been conducted.
NLC mine - Enquiry has been conducted.

(e) Inder mine - Fire occurred due to spontaneous heating in fallen coal in the return airways.
Chitra OCP - Outcome will be known after completion of the enquiry.
Bina CHP - The root cause of fire could not be ascertained with certainty.
NLC mine - In case of the electrical flash of May, 2000 - the report revealed that the flash was due to lignite dust deposited around the slip-ring of BWE.

(f) Inder mine - Action has been taken to clear the return airways of fallen coal.
Chitra OCP - Necessary action will be taken after completion of the enquiry.
Bina CHP - The following actions have been taken :-

1. Handing over and taking over charge is being done by engineers.
2. Steel cord belting has been installed in place of rubber belting.
3. House keeping has been improved
4. Security arrangement has been strengthened by intensifying patrolling
5. Training of personnel to use fire extinguishers and hydrants was conducted by fire fighting staff of CISF.

NLC mine - The periodicity of inspection in these areas has been increased.