

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1212

ANSWERED ON:29.07.2003

THEFT OF COAL

AVSM, BRIG.(RETD.) KAMAKHYA PRASAD SINGH DEO;RAMSHETH THAKUR

**Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government have identified the coal mines in the country where there are increasing incidents of theft of coal;
- (b) if so, the number of such incidents detected during 2001-2002, 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 till date, company- wise and mine-wise;
- (c) the estimated quantum of coal stolen and the loss suffered as a result thereof, year-wise and company-wise;
- (d) the details of the steps taken or being taken by the Government to prevent theft of coal;
- (e) whether the Government propose to involve employees union to prevent theft or pilferage of coal; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA)

(a) to (c) Theft of Coal is carried out clandestinely and as such it is not possible to exactly specify the location from and the quantity of coal that might have been stolen. However, as per raids conducted by security personnel as well as joint raids with the law and order authorities of the concerned State Governments during last three years, the following quantities were recovered in the subsidiary companies of Coal India Limited: -

2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004				
Company	FIRs Qty.	App.	FIRs Qty.	App.	FIRs Qty.	App.		
lodged	Reco-	Value	lodged	Reco-	Value	lodged	Reco-	Value
vered	(Rs.lakh)	vered	(Rs.lakh)	vered	(Rs.lakh)	vered	(Rs.lakh)	vered

ECL 1404 22617.00 178.00 804 14140.00 113 341 4909.00 39.26

BCCL 60 183.80 2.78 47 71.69 0.977 22 7.29 0.097

CCL 72 967.00 9.67 13 704.50 7.00 30 470.75 4.70

NCL 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

WCL 6 20.78 0.19 20 277.21 2.23 8 123.24 1.215

SECL 10 216.00 1.30 7 65.48 0.55 0 0 0

MCL TO DDM 30.00 0.10 4 34.60 0.16 13 5.90 0.03

NEC 0 0 0 40 49.70 0.53 0 0 0

Total 1552 24034.58 192.04 935 15343.18 124.45 414 5516.18 45.30

(d) Law and order is a State subject, hence the coal companies maintain close liaison with the State authorities. In addition, the following steps are being taken by subsidiary companies of CIL to prevent theft/pilferage of coal: -

- i) Collection of intelligence reports about illegal coal depots and illegal movement of coal and informing district authorities of the same for taking preventive action.
  - ii) Installation of check-posts at vulnerable points to check transport documents.
  - iii) Construction of watch-towers and providing lighting arrangements around the coal stacking area.
  - iv) Erection of barbed-wire/wall fencing around pithead depots, static security manning including deployment of armed guards during the night hours.
  - v) Escorting of loaded rakes upto railway weighbridges by armed guards and joint patrolling with Railway Protection Force (RPF) in the long railway tracks which are prone to wagon looting.
  - vi) Sealing of illegal mining spots.
  - vii) Stringent action against transport vehicles caught in the act of theft or pilferage.
  - viii) Engagement of lady security guards for preventing women and children indulging in theft/pilferage of coal, strengthening of the security discipline by reassessing the requirement of security personnel, horizontal movement of executives with aptitude for security work and inducting qualified security personnel at junior, middle and senior levels.
  - ix) Training of existing security personnel, refresher training of CISF personnel and basic training to new recruits in security discipline for strengthening the security set up.
- (e) and (f) During discussions with the trade unions at unit/company level, they are requested to extend their help/co-operation in preventing theft/pilferage of coal.