

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3648  
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2003  
LOW UTILIZATION OF HEMM  
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**Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether it is a fact that Coal India Ltd. has undertaken a mine-wise study to assess the reasons for low utilization of Heavy Earth Moving Machinery (HEMM);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the measures adopted by CIL for optimum utilization of high cost machinery;
- (d) whether CIL has appointed a committee to look into the question of diversion of idle equipments and machines from one subsidiary to other;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the Committee has submitted its report; and
- (g) if so, the detailed recommendations made by the Committee and steps taken or being taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL) :

- (a) and (b) Coal companies under Coal India Limited undertake mine-wise study to assess the reasons for low utilization of HEMM and to improve utilization.
- (c) The following steps are being taken to improve utilization of HEMM :
  - (i) Facilities like Mobile van, Diesel Bowzer, Canteen van, Crane, Welding machine, High pressure Washing Pump etc. are provided as auxiliary support to the equipment.
  - (ii) Advance planning for procurement of spares and its judicious management for reduction of time taken in repair/overhaul/rehabilitation.
  - (iii) Replacement plan has been made to reduce the number of out aged equipment in phases.
  - (iv) Float Bank is being set up at regional workshops to reduce down time of equipment.
  - (v) Improved workshop facilities provided to reduce repair time.
  - (vi) Construction of proper haulroad.
  - (vii) Steps have been taken to improve communication facilities in large projects.
  - (viii) Special efforts are made to make machines more reliable by timely maintenance. Condition based monitoring is practiced in major projects to reduce downtime of equipment.
  - (ix) Surprise checks by Industrial Engg. Department during the back shifts have improved timely start of shifts and hence better utilization.
  - (x) Advance planning of major repair/rehabilitation of HEMM is done followed by close monitoring for re-commissioning of the same.
  - (xi) Special emphasis has been laid on blasting for better fragmentation resulting in lower down time of equipment.
  - (xii) Providing optimum working area to Shovels for enhancing productivity.
  - (xiii) Shifting of time office very near to work site in large projects.

- (xiv) Allotment of equipment in advance to operators on a fortnightly/monthly basis.
  - (xv) Staggering of shift duty timing of Dozer operators to make advance preparation of operating shovel face and dump yard preparation.
  - (xvi) Improving cleanliness and condition of operator cabins of all machines.
  - (xvii) Ensure that hour meters provided on all HEMM are working.
  - (xviii) Discussing performance report in respect of utilization regularly in the monthly CGM/GM coordination meetings at Subsidiary Headquarter Equipment under breakdown for more than 3 months are being monitored regularly from HQ level.
  - (xix) Publicity and propaganda in respect of best achiever in each mine on weekly basis for better motivation. Observing `Engineers Day Fortnight` in order to have a competition on various activities i.e. maintenance and operation.
  - (xx) Organizing workshop at the level of sub area Manager and Staff Officer (Executive) for deliberation on improvement in capacity utilization of equipment,
  - (xxi) Non-availability of mining land is being solved through constant follow up with concerned Government officials.
- (d) to (g) The task force constituted by subsidiary companies of C!L were also to look after gainful utilization of equipment and considered diversion of equipment idling in one mine to another needy mine. Diversion of equipment from one subsidiary to another, though arduous is also being considered along with re-adjustment within subsidiary to minimize mis-match.