

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2567
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2000
SINKING OF RAILWAY LINES
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Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether railway-lines over-passing/passing around certain coal mines of the country are constantly sinking into the earth;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State and U.T.-wise;
- (c) the reasons therefor in each case;
- (d) the steps taken to protect further sinking of railway lines; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

(a) to (e): It has been reported by Coal India Limited that no incidence of subsidence causing sinking of railway lines passing over/passing coal mines under command area of Coal India Limited has come to their knowledge. However, following railway lines are likely to be affected due to the existence of fire for more than 30 years in the surrounding areas (Pre-Nationalisation).

- (i) Dhanbad-Chandrapura Chord Line (Eastern Railway)
- (ii) Dhanbad-Patherdih-Sudamdih Railway Line (Eastern Railway)
- (iii) Adra-Gomoh Railway Line (South Eastern Railway)

The details of action taken by BCCL to protect the railway lines are as under:

1. Dhanbad-Chandrapura Chord Line (Eastern Railway)

- (a) At Bassuriya and S. Bansjora isolation trenches have been cut to isolate the fire for protection of railway line.
- (b) At S. Bansjora surface sealing has been done to retard the progress of fire towards railway line.
- (c) At Khas Kusunda a scheme to stabilise the Kusunda yard at an estimated cost of Rs. 0.4963 crores is under implementation.

2. Dhanbad-Patherdih-Sudamdih Railway Line (Eastern Railway)

- (a) A world bank assisted project namely "Jharia mine Fire Technical Assistance Project" has studied and submitted its final report in May, 1997 in which they have indicated that the railway line is threatened near Lodna, Bagdigi and Bararee mines, and most appropriate means is to divert rail traffic.
- (b) At Lodna isolation trench and cement grouting through boreholes have been done to protect the track.
- (c) At Bagdigi and Bararee mines isolation trench and blanketing with Matti have been done as preventive measures against advance of fire.
- (d) At Lodna-South Lodna fire a scheme to deal with fires which will protect the railway line is under implementation at an estimated cost of Rs. 3.34 crores.
- (e) At Sudamdih Eastern edge XIXII, XIV/XIVA seams have been blanketed to control the fire advancing towards the railway track.

(f) New Schemes

- (i) Further a scheme under Standing Scientific Research Committee (SSRC) for protection of this line at Lodna and Bagdigi for a total

investment of Rs. 6.11 crores has been prepared and is under approval of SSRC.

(ii) Another scheme under SSRC for protection of railway track at Bararee for an investment of Rs. 4.95 crores is under approval of SSRC.

The work required to be done under these schemes are in seam sand stowing borehole sand stowing, surface sealing, blanketing etc.

3. Adra-Gomoh Railway Line(South Eastern Railway)

(i) At Gopulichak colliery isolation trench upto XV seam floor has been made in addition to the surface sealing to control the progress of fire.

(ii) New Scheme.

(a) At Phularitand & Block IIOCP a scheme under SSRC for protection of railway line for an investment of Rs. 5.24 crores is under approval.

(b) At Sudamdih a scheme under SSRC for protection of railway line for an investment of Rs. 8.24 crores (also for Patherdih-Bhojudih Line) is under approval.

The work required to be done under these schemes are construction of water pools, borehole sand stowing surface sealing, blanketing etc.