

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2443
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2004
DISPLACEMENT FROM JHARIA
Dubey Shri Chandra Shekhar;Marandi Shri Babu Lal

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to stop displacement of lakhs of people by making Jharia and its surrounding area safe; and
- (b) if so, the time by which the sand filling works through hydrolic sand stowing are likely to be started ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL AND MINES (Dr. DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

(a) At present there is no mine fire below Jharia town and there is no plan to shift Jharia town. Incidentally, Jharia town is surrounded by mine fires like Kujama, Lodna, Simlabahal, Ena, Rajapur and some of the localities have been identified to be shifted for safety of the persons residing there.

As per the recommendations of scientific studies and report of High Level Committee of Ministry of Coal, CMPDI etc., it is planned to shift people from endangered areas due to the affect of fire and subsidence at the mines of BCCL which have been identified as uncontrollable and requires shifting from different identified and endangered areas of BCCL.

As per the Master Plan/Action Plan, there is a plan of shifting 65300 houses (BCCL houses 36208, Private houses 15571, Encroachers houses 12719 & others 802) in 20 years period. The shifting is required for safety of the persons residing in the endangered areas.

(b) Hydraulic sand stowing has already been done under various schemes, formulated and approved under Environmental Measures and Subsidence Control under Ministry of Coal and as a result few sites could be stabilized within the command of Jharia Coalfield.