

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3360
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2006
ILLEGAL MINING ACTIVITIES IN ASANSOL DIVISION
Chakraborty Dr. Sujan

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the norms fixed by the Railways about the requirement of minimum distance from the tracks for conducting mining activities;
- (b) whether cases of illegal mining activities, in violation of the above norms have come to the notice of Railways with particular reference to Asansol Division in Eastern Railways;
- (c) if so, the details thereof during the last two years; and
- (d) the action taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R.VELU)

- (a): The minimum distance is 45 metres.
 - (b) & (c): Yes, Sir. Regular inspections are being conducted on Railways. As soon as any case of illegal mining on Railways land come to notice, Divisional authorities takes prompt action and advise Civil and Mining authorities.
 - (d): Prevention of illegal mining activities is the subject matter of State Government concerned. Railway has requested to State Government and Eastern Coal Field Limited (ECL) authorities to take necessary action.
- Filling up of illegal pits has also been undertaken by ECL authority by deploying dozing machine and nearly 400 nos. illegal minings/pits have been dozed.