

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:393  
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2010  
ILLEGAL MINING  
Mahato Shri Narahari

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

- (a) whether the illegal mining of coal has damaged Ranchi- Patna National Highway-33 and poisonous smoke has started oozing out of August 2009, endangering lives and property besides environmental hazards;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action taken against the culprits;
- (d) whether the National Highway has been made road worthy and environment free from poisonous gases;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the time by which the work taken in this regard would be completed?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL & MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. Illegal mining by miscreants in this area was noticed as early as 1999 and regular FIRs were lodged in this regard by Central Coalfields Limited (CCL). Illegal entries were made in seam XII by the miscreants, which was virgin below National Highway (NH)-33. The coal was robbed below NH-33 making the strata beneath the road hollow and creating dangerous situation. Thus a part of NH-33 between Lakrigate & Lohagate (Near Madhu-8 Km' milestone while approaching from Ramgarh to Hazaribagh) was made unsafe due to illegal mining. The area belongs to National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) and adjoining forest land belongs to Jharkhand Government. On 26.6.2009 fire was detected in Seam XII, which was perhaps propagated due to spontaneous heating. On 09.08.2009, a part of NH-33 suffered from pot holes, and active blazing fire was found on the surface with dense noxious smoke.

(c): State Government of Jharkhand is responsible for taking action against the miscreants.

(d) to (f): The fire has been dealt with the help of water and chemicals but complete digging out of carbonaceous material could not be done as the concerned forest land has not been handed over to CCL by the State Forest Department. Currently road has been diverted till the damaged portion of NH-33 is repaired.

MOST IMMEDIATE  
PARLIAMENT QUESTION

No.54016/03/2010-CPAM  
Government of India  
Ministry of Coal  
New Delhi, the 19th February, 2010

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject:- Admitted Unstarred question for the Lok Sabha regarding Illegal Mining for 24.02.2010.

The undersigned is directed to send a copy of Admitted Unstarred Question No.393 for reply in the Lok Sabha on 24.2.2010 on the subject mentioned above and to request that the information in respect of the admitted version may kindly be sent to this Ministry immediately and also through email to [socpam.moc@nic.in](mailto:socpam.moc@nic.in) and [uscpam.moc@nic.in](mailto:uscpam.moc@nic.in)

(Sandeep Gupta)

Under Secretary to the Government of India Encl. As above

To

1. Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi. (Fax-011-24361896, 24360570)

2. Chief Secretary, Government of Bihar, Patna (Fax- 0612- 2223982)
3. Chief Secretary, Governemnt of Jharkhand, Ranchi (Fax- 0651- 2400240, 2400250)
4. Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport and Highway, Transport Bhawan, New Delhi (Fax-23356669)