

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:187  
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2010  
MODERNISATION OF COAL MINING OPERATIONS  
Dhruvanarayana Shri R.

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

- (a) whether the delays in the environmental clearances for new coal mining blocks is one of the reasons for the shortage of coal in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether primitive systems are still being operated for coal mining in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to modernize mining operations in the country?

**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) to (e): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred in parts (a) to (e) of the reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 187 for 10.03.2010

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. 89 coal projects of Coal India Limited are awaiting Environmental Clearance at present.

(c) & (d): Most of the mines of Coal India Limited are either fully mechanized or semi-mechanized. However, some of the underground mines of Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL), Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) and Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) are not amenable to total mechanization due to geo-mining conditions that are not conducive to mechanization and sub optimal level of evacuation capacity.

(e): Details of up-gradation in underground and opencast mines of Coal India Limited are briefly given below:

i) Upgraded technology in underground mines:

The thrust areas for the future may remain the Bord and Pillar (B&P) method with higher degree of mechanization like continuous miners technology in conjunction with mechanized drilling and roof bolting system. However, use of long wall technology, wherever, geo-mining conditions permit, will be continued as a mass production technology. There will be a judicious mix of B&P with continuous miner, B&P with Side Discharge Loader (SDL)/Load Haul Dumper (LHD) combination mechanized long-wall and special mining methods.

Many underground mines are having long traveling distances about 3 to 5 Km. or more which take away considerable amount of time spent on to and fro journeys to the working places. Making provision of UG Man riding system, which will be cost effective too, can considerably reduce this precious time loss on traveling. Full-face shaft sinking and incline drirage machines are proposed for new mines so as to start production much earlier than the existing systems and also make these cost effective.

ii) Technology up-gradation in open cast mines.

Up-gradation of equipment size matching with bench height and stripping ratio are being introduced. For Dumpers, up- gradation from 35/50 T to 60 T, 85 T to 100T, 120T to 150 T as well as higher sizes are being introduced. Similar action has been taken for the standardization of other HEMM. Action has also been initiated for replacement of old equipment with higher size equipment.

Use of high capacity hydraulic shovels (10 to 25 Cum) will find increased acceptability. Higher capacity dozers of sizes upto 850 HP will complement the higher capacity excavators.

7th Position

NOTE FOR SUPPLEMENTARY FOR THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 187 FOR 10.03.2010 REGARDING MODERNISATION OF COAL MINING OPERATIONS

Name of the M.P :- Shri Dhruva Narayana Name of the State :- Chamrajanagar (SC)

(Karnataka ) Party :- Indian National Congress(INC).

## INDEX

Q. No.	Subject	Page No.
1	What is impact on XI Plan Production from Coal India Limited (CIL) on account of delays in forestry clearance	1
2	What is the average time taken in obtaining environmental clearance and forest clearance?	2
3	What is the total land requirement projected for XI Plan projects and what is the projected land requirement for project under implementation other than XI Plan Projects?	3
4	How many proposal are pending for environmental clearance and forestry clearance at Ministry of Environment and Forests and State Level for Stage-I and Stage-II separately? Also indicate how long these proposal are pending?	4
5	How many mines are being operated with the manual operations? Please furnish the company wise details?	5

## 7th Position

### NOTE FOR SUPPLEMENTARY FOR THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 187 FOR 10.03.2010 REGARDING MODERNISATION OF COAL MINING OPERATIONS

Question 1. What is impact on XI Plan Production from Coal India Limited (CIL) on account of delays in forestry clearance?

Ans. Forestry clearance of 127 projects with a projected production of 245.17 Mty during the terminal year of XI Plan period (i.e. 2011-12) is presently awaiting clearance at Stage- I & Stage-II level.

However, as per present assessment a drop in production of about 34 Mte is envisaged during the terminal year of XI Plan.

Question 2. What is the average time taken in obtaining environmental clearance and forest clearance?

Ans. The average time taken in obtaining environmental clearance is about 2 to 3 years and 4 to 5 years for forestry clearance.

Question 3. What is the total land requirement projected for XI Plan projects and what is the projected land requirement for project under implementation other than XI Plan Projects?

Ans. As per present assessment about 62,000 Ha of land is required for achieving the targets set for XI Plan period and beyond. Out of these 62,000 Ha of land, about 22,000 Ha is required for projects other than identified projects of XI Plan.

Question 4. How many proposal are pending for environmental clearance and forestry clearance at Ministry of Environment and Forests and State Level for Stage-I and Stage-II separately? Also indicate how long these proposal are pending?

Ans. 89 coal projects are awaiting environmental clearance and 127 projects are awaiting forestry clearance. Out of these 127 projects 105 projects are awaiting Stage-I forestry clearance and 22 projects are awaiting Stage-II clearance.

Out of 105 projects awaiting Stage-I clearance, 81 projects are in process of clearance at State level and 24 projects are at MOEF level. Out of 22 projects awaiting stage- II clearance, 17 projects are in process of clearance at State level and 5 projects are at MOEF level.

As per assessment made, average pendency at State level for Stage-I clearance is more than 4 years and that for Stage- II clearance is more than 2.5 years. Similarly, average pendency at MOEF level for Stage-II clearance is more than 1 year and that for Stage-II clearance is about 2.5 years.

Question 5. How many proposals of Environment clearance and Forestry clearance of CIL have been rejected by MOEF in the last three years?

Ans. Nil

Question 6. How many mines are being operated with the manual operations? Please furnish the company wise details?

Ans. The company-wise details of manually operated mines are given below.

Subsidiary No of mines operated manually

ECL	34
BCCL	13
CCL	23
NCL	0
WCL	2
SECL	1
MCL	2
NEC	0
Total	75