

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5458  
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2010  
DAMAGE CAUSED BY COAL MINING  
Mahant Dr. Charan Das

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study to assess the damage caused to the environment, ground water level and human beings inhabited in the area as a result of coal mining particularly in major coal producing States like Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the outcome of the study, including the cities/towns affected by the coal mining as on date;and
- (c) the corrective measures taken/proposes to be taken by the Government to address the issue?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): No, Sir. However, in a recent study carried out by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (IITD) under the aegis of Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) to assess the environmental pollution of 88 industrial clusters (indicating combined effect of all industries in the area) in different parts of the country. The internally generated Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index (CEP1) indicate that the pollution level of the coal mines are much lower compared to the total pollution level of the clusters identified by CPCB.

it is pertinent to mention here that Management Plan (EMP) for each project is prepared taking into account the likely impact on environment, ground water, human beings etc which involves the holding of Public Hearing with the stake holders and the officials of State Government concerned. EMP is finalized addressing the issues raised by the Stake holders and placed for approval of Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF). Project proponents have to comply with the conditions laid by MoEF while according environment clearance.