GOVERNMENT OF INDIA COAL LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:627 ANSWERED ON:28.07.2010 SAFETY IN COAL MINES Patel Shri R.K. Singh

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any mechanism available to monitor the security and safety arrangements in the coal mines, both in opencast and underground, in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to augment the safety arrangements in the coal mines; and

(d) the details of fund allocated and utilized for the purpose during each of the last three years and the current year, company-wise and year wise?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) All Mining operations in coal mines are carried out as per the Legislative requirement under Mines Act 1952, Coal mines regulation (CMR) 1957, Mine rules etc. Directorate General Mines Safety (DGMS) under Ministry of Labour & Employment is the administrative wing to administer the statutes of Mines Act and related Rules & Regulations. They supervise and monitor all the safety aspects and status in mines. Ministry of Coal has also constituted a Standing Committee on Safety in coal mines which periodically reviews and recommend measures for improving the safety aspects in coal mines. The Coal Companies has established a suitable mechanism for safety arrangements in opencast and underground mines.

For security of their own premises, the coal companies are having watch-N-ward department, in addition to deployment of personnel from Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) to guard sensitive and important locations.

The coal companies in addition to complying with the statutory requirement for mine safety have also adopted the following safety measures:

i) Established a structured multi-disciplinary Internal Safety Organization (ISO) to assist the line management at various level in matters related to safety.

ii) Risk Assessment & Management, as a tool for enhancement of safety, has been introduced.

iii) Safety Committees comprising all sections of workers and management are functioning in each mines.

iv) At area level and Headquarters level bi-partite and tripartite meetings comprising Director General Mines Safety (DGMS), Trade Union representatives and management are held regularly.

v) At CIL level, Apex Safety Board comprising representatives of Trade Union, DGMS and CMDs of subsidiary companies are meeting regularly under the chairmanship of Chairman, CIL.

vi) Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines are held regularly under the chairmanship of Minister of Coal comprising the representatives of National level Trade Unions, CEOs of all Coal and Lignite companies, DGMS, Ministry of Labour & Employment and officials of Ministry of Coal.

(d): The details of funds allocated and utilized for undertaking safety arrangements in coal mines by the coal companies during last three years and the current year, company-wise and year-wise are as under:

(Rs. In lakhs)					
Company 2007-	-08 20	08-09	2	2009-10	2010-11
Total Actual	Total Actual	Total	Actual	Total	
Budget Expen	Budget Expen	Budget	Expen	Budge	et
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#Revenue budget is included in the general revenue budget of the Area. @ Provisional

\$As the total funds for Capital and Revenue expenditure for safety is provided based on the requirement hence, there is no specific fixation of the budget.