

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1653
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2010
FIRE ACCIDENTS IN COAL MINES
Pandey Shri Ravindra Kumar

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the fire and other accidents cases have been on increase in various Mines in Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries during the last one year;
- (b) if so, the number of such incidents, company-wise;
- (c) whether fire and other accidents have occurred due to shortage of technical staff in the said mines;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

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) & (b): The number of fatal accidents due to fire and other causes in CIL during the period January-June 2010 have increased compared to the number of accidents in the corresponding period of 2009. The details of accidents company-wise and year-wise for the year 2009 and 2010 (up to June) are given below.

FATAL ACCIDENTS		SERIOUS ACCIDENTS				
Company	2009	2009	2010	2009	2009	2010
	(Jan	(Jan	(Jan	(Jan		
	to	to	to	to		
	June)	June)	June)	June)		

ECL	9	4	6	74	39	23
BCCL	13	6	2	50	26	22
CCL	6	3	5	12	8	5
NCL	4	1	6	11	7	3
WCL	12	5	6	38	14	20
SECL	12	5	14	42	20	24
MCL	2	1	2	8	3	2
NEC	0	0	0	1	0	0
CIL	58	25	41	236	117	99

(c) & (d): No, Sir

(e): In addition to compliance with the statutes related to coal mine safety, Government has been emphasizing for self regulation and the following safety measures are being adopted by the coal companies in this regard:

1. Established a structured multi-disciplinary Internal Safety Organization (ISO) to assist the line management at various levels in matters related to Safety.
2. Risk Assessment & Management, as a tool for enhancement of safety.
3. Thrust on measures for reduction of roof and side fall accidents in belowground mines through:
 - a. Drawing up of Support Plans based on Rock Mass Rating (RMR) and implementation of the same.
 - b. Greater use of Roof Bolting for roof support by quick setting cement / resin capsules.
 - c. Introduction of mechanized drilling by roof bolting machines thereby
 - # Improving quality of roof bolting as well as
 - # Reducing exposure of roof-bolting crew, to hazard of roof fall.
 - d. Introduction of Resin grouted roof bolts in watery seams
 - e. Establishment of strata control cell to monitor strata movement.
 - f. Training of Support Personnel and Supervisors.
 - g. Reducing exposure of workmen by increasing mechanization of operations in underground mines, through the use of Side

Discharge Loaders (SDLs)/Load Haul Dumpers (LHDs), Power Support Long Wall Technology (PSLW) & Continuous Miners.

4. Measures for reduction of accidents in opencast mines are being pursued through

- a. Implementation of various Codes of Practices for operation and maintenance of HEMM, for Drilling and Blasting, for transmission, distribution supply and use of electricity, for deployment of Contractor's workers, for working in heights, etc., Traffic Rules, checking of contractor's vehicles/equipment by company's engineers.
- b. Training of Heavy Earth Moving Machinery operators and contractor's workers

5. Thrust is being maintained on preparedness for emergencies through.

- a. Reviewing Emergency Action Plans for each and every working districts in underground mines.
- b. Demarcating escape routes on plans, as well as in working areas belowground.
- c. Conducting mock rehearsals and monitoring failure points for further improvement.
- d. Enhancement of safety awareness through publicity and propaganda, safety drives, safety weeks etc.