

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3994  
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2010  
COAL FIRE  
Singh Shri Pashupati Nath

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

- (a) whether any cases of coal fire in the coal mines in the State of Jharkhand have come to the notice of the Government during 2005 to 2010;
- (b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor and the quantum of coal burnt therein;
- (c) whether the incidents of coal fire took place due to the negligence of the officials:
- (d) if so, the details of the action taken against the guilty officials?

**Answer**

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

(a)&(b): Three incidents of fire have occurred in the State of Jharkhand within the command area of Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) and Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) during 2005 to 2010. Details are given as under:-

In BCCL, two following incidents of fire have occurred:

- (1) On 6.10.2009 an incident occurred in Murlidih 20/21 Pit, Western Jharia Area due to spontaneous heating or rubbing of coal by conveyor. The affected part of the mine was sealed off immediately.
- (2) On 14.7.2006 another incident occurred in East Bhugatdih Colliery of Kustore area due to transfer of old fire from an adjoining mine through the barrier. The affected part of the mine was sealed off.

The quantum of coal burnt was not assessed as the aream was sealed off.

In CCL, one incident of spontaneous heating had occurred in a part of an old working in Churi under ground colliery, North Karanpura Area, where smoke was found erupting. The heating was controlled within a very short time by scientific treatment. Spontaneous heating took place in a sealed off area which was punctured by some miscreants and it was not possible to assess quantity of coal burnt.

(c)&(d): In the case of BCCL, the enquiry revealed, negligence on the part of the officials for not cleaning the fallen coal in time in case of Murlidih Colliery and severe warnings have been issued to the guilty officials. No official was found responsible in case of East Bhugatdih Colliery. In the case of CCL, the incident of spontaneous heating was an abnormal phenomenon resulting from the action of miscreants.