

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:313

ANSWERED ON:01.12.2010

ILLEGAL COAL MINING

Bavalia Shri Kuvarjibhai Mohanbhai; Namdhari Shri Inder Singh

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

- (a) whether illegal coal mining is reportedly being carried out in several coal mines especially in Chotila Block of Gujarat;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, coal mine-wise;
- (c) the revenue loss incurred as a result thereof during the last six months;
- (d) the number of deaths/injuries reported in each of the coal mine during illegal mining; and
- (e) the action taken/proposed to be taken against the guilty officials for permitting illegal coal mining?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE(IC) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE(IC) IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION. (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JISWAL)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT AS MENTIONED IN ANSWER TO STARRED QUESTION NO.313 FOR ANSWER ON 1.12.2010 ASKED BY SHRI KUNVARJIBHAI M. BAVALIYA AND SHRI Inder Singh NAMDHARI REGARDING ILLEGAL COAL MINING

(a) to (c): Illegal mining is mostly taking place clandestinely in old and abandoned mines, small and isolated patches, outcrop areas and areas which are not in the lease hold areas of public sector coal companies. However, the coal deposits at Than of Chotila Block in Sundernagar District, Gujarat, are of very poor quality as basically it is carbonaceous shale and its thickness and the depth of occurrence does not allow it to be scientifically or economically mined. It has been reported that in stray cases, the local people, while scouting for water for irrigation purposes have encountered such carbonaceous shale horizons in their excavations. Being a law and order issue, it is the responsibility of State/District administration to take necessary deterrent action to stop/curb this activity of illegal mining.

Due to clandestine nature of illegal mining activities, the exact quantum of coal, so mined and losses incurred on account of illegal mining cannot be ascertained. However, on the basis of raids conducted by the security personnel of coal companies as well as joint raids with the law and order authorities of the concerned State Government, the approximate quantity of coal recovered during 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 (up to Sept` 10) and approximate value of coal seized are given as under:

**Quantity of Coal Seized (in tonnes)**

Company	2008-09 (upto Sept` 10)	2009-10	2010-11 (Prov)
---------	----------------------------	---------	----------------

Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (ECL)	6529.00	8161.00	3573.00
-------------------------------	---------	---------	---------

Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. (BCCL)	2050.96	2131.81	420.11
--------------------------------	---------	---------	--------

Central Coalfields Ltd (CCL)	93.00	30.00	15.00
------------------------------	-------	-------	-------

Northern Coalfields Ltd. (NCL)	0.00	0.00	0.00
--------------------------------	------	------	------

Western Coalfields Ltd. (WCL)	11.00	0.00	0.00
-------------------------------	-------	------	------

South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (SECL) 0.00 0.00 0.00

Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd. (MCL) 0.00 0.00 0.00

North-Eastern Coalfields (NEC) 0.00 0.00 0.00

Coal India Limited (CIL) 8683.96 10322.18 4008.11

Approximate Value of Coal Seized (in Rs.Lakh)

Company 2008-09 2009-10 2010-11(Prov)  
(upto Sept` 10)

ECL 65.290 96.300 70.460

BCCL 35.920 36.012 7.663

0.855 0.300 0.150

NCL 0.000 0.000 0.000

WCL 0.110 0.000 0.000

SECL 0.000 0,000 0.000

MCL 0.000 0.000 0.000

NEC 0.000 0.000 0.000

CIL 102.175 132.612 78.273

(d) & (e) : As no mining operations are being carried out by colliery authorities in the mines which have been abandoned/isolated by the competent authority, no feedback regarding loss of lives due to illegal extraction of coal from abandoned coal mines has been received by Coal India Limited and no record is maintained by the coal companies in this regard.