

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2586  
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2009  
THEFT OF COAL  
Deora Shri Milind Murl;Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding theft of coal at loading /unloading point and coal depots of the Coal India Limited (CIL);
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the number of theft cases registered by the coal companies on account of theft of coal during the last three years and the current year, company-wise;
- (c) the loss incurred by CIL as a result thereof during the said period;
- (d) whether the Government has conducted any investigation into the matter;
- (e) if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (f) the measures taken/being taken by the Government to prevent pilferage of coal from loading/unloading points and depots of CIL?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL(IC) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE(IC) IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION(SHRI SRIPRAKSH JAISWAL)

(a), (b) & (c): Theft/pilferage of coal is carried out stealthily and clandestinely. As such, it is not possible to specify the losses incurred on account of theft / pilferage of coal.

However,as per raids conducted by security personnel as well as joint raids with the law and order authorities of the concerned State Government, the quantity of coal recovered and its approximate value during 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 and 2009-10 (Up to may,09) (Prov) are as under:-

2006-07

Company	No. of cases/ incidents	Quantity recovered(in tonnes)	Approx Value (Rs. in Lakh)
ECL	1473	11444.000	114.440
BCCL	212	8785.71	130.096
CCL	8	617.50	5.175
NCL	0	0.00	0.000
WCL	22	109.75	1.565
SECL	49	406.99	5.764
MCL	27	494.03	3.083

NEC	28	0.50	0.06
CIL	1819	21758.48	260.183

## 2007-08

Company	No. of cases/ incidents	Quantity recovered(in tonnes)	Approx Value (Rs. in Lakh)
ECL	1456	13117.00	131.170
BCCL	201	11071.52	166.896
CCL	5	1803.07	23.096
NCL	0	0.00	0.000
WCL	38	250.01	4.078
SECL	99	1910.57	32.030
MCL	40	343.56	2.761
NEC	9	0.00	0.000
CIL	1848	28495.72	380.03

## 2008-09

Company	No. of cases/ incidents	Quantity recovered(in tonnes)	Approx Value (Rs.in Lakh)
ECL	921	9152.00	91.520
BCCL	71	9714.54	189.659
CCL	10	2524.00	27.595
NCL	0	0.00	0.000
WCL	41	353.15	5.988
SECL	66	843.98	15.043
MCL	62	607.10	4.420
NEC	21	2.80	0.080
CIL	1192	23197.57	334.31

## 2009-10 (up to May 09) (Prov)

Company	No.of cases/ incidents	Quantity recovered (in tonnes)	Approx Value (Rs. in Lakh)
ECL	113	1101.00	11.010
BCCL	8	1425.51	29.990
CCL	2	32.25	0.336
NCL	0	0.00	0.000
WCL	7	87.57	1.285
SECL	9	77.23	0.816
MCL	8	52.20	0.433
NEC	13	0.00	0.000
CIL	160	2775.78	43.57

(d & e): The allegations of pilferage of coal have been investigated by the Vigilance Department of the Coal companies as well as the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). The allegations regarding theft and pilferage in the South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) were not substantiated during the investigation by CBI. However, CBI advised initiation and implementation of effective preventive vigilance steps. These include, apart from the regular measures, installation of weight bridges, electronic surveillance systems and global positioning systems. Action has been initiated to implement the above.

(f) Law & order is a State subject, and hence primarily, it is the responsibility of the State / District administration to take necessary deterrent action to stop /curb theft/ pilferage of coal. However, following steps are taken by the coal companies to prevent theft or pilferage of coal:

1. Collection of intelligence reports about illegal coal depots and illegal movement of coal and informing district authorities of the same for taking preventive action/filing of FIR.
2. Installation of check posts at vulnerable points to check transport documents.
3. Construction of watch towers and providing lighting arrangements around the coal stacking area.
4. Erection of barbed wire wall fencing around pithead depots, static security mining including deployment of armed guards during the night hours.
5. Escorting of loaded rakes up to railway weigh bridges by armed guards and joint patrolling with Railway Protection Force(RPF) in the railways track which are prone to wagon looting.
6. Sealing of illegal mining spots.
7. Stringent action against transport vehicles caught in the act of theft or pilferage.
8. Engagement of lady security guards for preventing women and children indulging in the theft/pilferage of coal, strengthening of the security discipline by reassessing the requirement of security personnel, horizontal movement of executives with aptitude for security work and inducting qualified security personnel at junior, middle and senior level.
9. Training of existing security personnel refresher training of CISF personnel and basic training of new recruits in security discipline for strengthening the security setup.
10. The coal companies maintain close liaison with the State authorities.