

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2295  
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2011  
MECHANISATION OF UNDERGROUND COAL MINES  
Singh Alias Pappu Singh Shri Uday

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

- (a) whether the mechanisation work has not been undertaken so far in many underground coal mines in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of such mines and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for full utilization of modern equipment in coal mines of the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL)

(a) & (b): No, Sir. Mechanisation of Coal Mines is a continuous process. However, the degree of mechanization varies from mine to mine. In CIL, out of the 271 underground mines, 227 mines are operating under various methods such as, fully mechanized PSLW packages, Shortwall packages, CM with Mass Production Technology, Semi-mechanized bord and pillar mining with LHD & SDL and mechanized with mixed loading. Remaining mines which are not yet mechanized are in the process of mechanization. Further, Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL) is operating 36 nos. of underground mines. Out of these, semi mechanization (SDL and LHD) and mechanization (Long Wall/Blasting gallery/Continuous Miner/Short wall) was introduced in 34 underground mines. In the remaining 2 mines Semi-mechanization / mechanization could not be introduced, because of difficult geological conditions, viz., steepness (gradient 1 in 3).

(c) : Government has been advising from time to time, coal companies for adopting state of the art technologies for improving coal production, productivity and safety. Coal India Ltd., (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd. (SCCL) keep introducing modern technologies/equipments as per the requirements from time to time.