

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3275  
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2011  
UNDERGROUND COAL MINES  
Meghwal Shri Bharat Ram

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

- (a) the details of underground coal mines being operated by Coal India Ltd. and Singreni Collieries Company Ltd., State-wise alongwith the average depth of working in each of these coal mines;
- (b) the grade of coal being mined from these underground mines;
- (c) the cost of mining per tonne of coal extracted from these mines vis-à-vis per tonne selling price of this coal;
- (d) whether these mines are making profits; and
- (e) if not, the average loss per tonne in case of loss making mines?

**Answer**

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

(a). The details of state-wise working underground (UG) mines operated by Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singreni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) as on 01.04.2011 are given below:

Sl.No. STATE No of UG mines  
Coal India Limited (CIL)

1 West Bengal 79

2 Jharkhand 69

3 Madhya Pradesh 48

4 Chhattisgarh 39

5 Maharashtra 22

6 Orissa 11

7 Assam 04

8 Meghalaya 01

Sub-Total 273

Total 309

As regards the average depth, CIL is presently operating underground mines up to a depth of 300 Meters, excepting a few mines like Chinakuri, Sudamdih etc, where operating depth is more than 300 meters. Similarly in case of SCCL the average depth of underground mines being operated is about 250-300 meters.

(b): The grade of raw coal being mined from the underground mines of CIL varies from Steel grade-I to Washery grade -IV for coking coals and from Grade A to Grade G for non-coking coals. In case of SCCL the quality of coal being mined from underground mines varies from grade A to grade G.

(c): The average cost of production from underground mines in CIL for 2010-11 was Rs.3451.77 per tonne and the average selling price of coal from underground mines was Rs.2075.53 per tonne. In case of SCCL the average cost of production from underground mines in 2010-11 was Rs.2537.94 per tonne and the average selling price of coal from underground mines was Rs.1925.29.

(d) & (e): Most of the underground mines are suffering losses. In case of CIL 266 underground mines incurred losses in 2010-11 and the average loss from these mines in 2010-11 was Rs. 1495.50 per tonne. Similarly, in case of SCCL 29 underground mines incurred losses in 2010-11 and the average loss from these mines was Rs.850.54 per tonne.