

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4245
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2012
NEW TECHNOLOGY
Singh Shri Sushil Kumar

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to use new technology in coal mining sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is proposing to set up new institution or tie up with existing institution for development of modern state of the art technology in coal mining sector;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government is also encouraging coal companies to set up new training institutes and for ensuring compulsory training for own and outsourced employees for upgradation of skills with regard to contemporary technologies and process; and
- (f) if so, the details of progress made in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. New Technology suitable for geo-mining characteristics of the coal seam as well as the economic viability of the projects has been adopted to the extent practicable in Coal India Limited's (CIL) Opencast Mines for maximum extraction of coal economically with due regard to safety, environment & conservation. The existing technology is being updated and modernized in phases. The Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Ltd. (CMPDIL) is planning all the new projects for CIL. New Technology such as Powered Support Longwall Technology, Continuous Miners, Side Discharge Loaders, Load Haul Dumpers etc. has been adopted in the Underground Mines of CIL.

Singreni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL) is gradually reducing production from conventional mining and is giving highest priority to introduce new and modern mining technologies in its mines. All opencast mines are mechanized and running with equipment such as Shovel, Dumper, Dragline, Surface miner, In-pit crusher conveyor etc. Recently, High Wall mining has been started to extract the residual coal in the opencast mine where the economic viable limit has been reached. There has been up-gradation in existing underground coal mines on a large scale by introducing semi-mechanization and mechanization in the existing Hand Section mines. Coal extraction with Side Dump Loader, Load Haul Dumper, Blasting Gallery method, Long Wall method & Continuous Miners is in vogue in underground mines of SCCL to increase capacity, productivity and safety standards.

(c) & (d) : No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal of any technological tie-up, because new washeries are being planned to set up on "Build, Operate and Maintain (BOM)" basis. A new Institute like Indian Institute of Coal Management, Ranchi will be set up at Bhubaneswar.

SCCL has been a pioneer in the introduction of modern mining technologies. Whenever a new technology is introduced in its mines, SCCL has been training its employees with the help of manufacturers / technology providers. Each year a large contingent of their staff and officers get trained in skills up-gradation programmes in various reputed institutions across the country.

(e) & (f) : In CIL, skill up-gradation of employees is a regular process and this is a part of MoU in the financial year 2012-13. Steps have been taken by all subsidiaries of CIL to impart training for up-gradation of skills to its employees either in its own institutes/training centres or any other places. A Staff Training College is functioning at CMPDIL, Ranchi for imparting training to executives and non-executives of CIL/subsidiaries including up-gradation of skills with regard to contemporary technology and processes.

SCCL is maintaining thirteen (13) training institutes for imparting basic training to new entrants in mining. For refreshers and outsourced employees, periodical training is given in the subsequent years and skill up-gradation on new technologies. SCCL is also planning to establish a Centre of Excellence at the site, which would offer programmes on advanced technologies and management to its employees.