

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2684

ANSWERED ON:12.03.2015

SAFETY AND SECURITY IN COAL MINES

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Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount earmarked by Coal India Limited (CIL) for ensuring safety and security in coal mines during each of the of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether the CIL has not fully utilized the safety budget;
- (c) if so, the details in this regard and the reasons therefor, year-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken to ensure full and effective utilization of safety budget and also check the number of fatalities?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL, POWER AND NEW AND RENEWABLEE ENERGY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) The CIL's subsidiaries company-wise funds earmarked for safety in order to ensure safety and security in their coal mines during each of the last three years and the current year are given below:

(Rs. in Lakh)

Company	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
ECL	17508.00	16792.00	19568.00	25536.00
BCCL	24337.71	29220.00	29985.46	38019.71
CCL	2603.62	2929.83	3354.71	3433.76
NCL	4074.04	3769.40	7329.55	2022.00
WCL	9528.00	11365.00	9125.00	9253.00
SECL	18214.00	19071.33	17953.00	9607.69
MCL	12872.72	4767.59	5719.88	4794.44
NEC	186.03	119.00	310.67	159.59
Total	89324.12	88034.15	93346.27	92826.19

#under CIL.

(b)&(c): The company-wise status of utilization of funds earmarked for safety in coal mines of CIL during each of the last three years and the current year are given below:

(Rs. in Lakh)

Company	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
(upto 2nd quarter)				
ECL	13535.00	13492.00	17336.00	17139.00
BCCL	22815.00	28070.00	27894.00	17054.75
CCL	2111.99	2170.84	1831.95	1606.35
NCL	3571.41	3744.40	4531.56	1509.37
WCL	8730.31	9116.29	9509.75	6067.30
SECL	13764.00	17789.76	16303.27	7668.69
MCL	4635.80	4630.54	5548.64	4145.54
NEC	180.49	95.99	84.35	18.90
Total	69344.00	79109.82	83039.52	55209.90

The fund allocated for safety was not fully utilized during the last 3 years due to the following reasons:

- i. Delay in finalization of tenders for procurement of safety items including the equipment required against survey off.
- ii. Further, some funds are always kept aside for utilization in case of emergency.

(d):Steps being taken to improve utilization of safety budget;

i. Pending proposals are being rigorously monitored for early finalization.

ii. Survey off process is being expedited for safety items which have completed its specified life.

iii. Proposals for procurement of new safety items including the equipments required against the survey off are being expedited with continuous follow up.

iv. E-tendering and e-procurement process are being followed for easing the procurement process.

Steps taken to check the number of fatalities:

Apart from compliance of the statutory provisions as laid down in the Mines Act, 1952, the Coal Mine Regulations- 1957 and Byelaws & Standing Order framed there under, CIL has taken several remedial measures to prevent fatalities and to improve the standard of safety. These are as under:

i) Internal Safety Organizations of Coal Companies regularly visit the mines for assessing the safety status and advise the management for corrective steps required if any.

ii) Coal Companies also conduct Safety audits through engaging experts in mine safety and take appropriate corrective measures for improving safety in mines.

iii) Standard operating procedures are established to avoid unsafe practices in mines.

iv) Workers participation and sensitization in matters of safety are ensured through training in safety and by initiatives like celebration of safety week and safety campaigns, etc.

v) Risk Assessment Techniques are introduced which aim to eliminate, control and manage the risks in mines.

vi) Safety training programmes are organized among Managers and Supervisors for improving safety standards in mines.

vii) Other safety measures initiated recently:

Special training programme for safety officers and other key mining official directly engaged in ensuing safety at mines by SIMTARS, Australia accredited trainers.

Several R&D projects on safety have also been initiated.

Spreading knowledge and coal mine safety information through publication of quarterly safety bulleting.

viii) A special safety awareness campaign has been launched to increase awareness of mine workers. i.e., 'Safety is My Responsibility' and steps have been taken to propagate this to each miner.

ix) To promote and propagate safety awareness in mines, National Safety Awards (Mines) and National Conference on Safety in Mines are organized by Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS). The recommendations of National Conference on Safety in Mines are being implemented to enhance safety of mine workers.

x) Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines under the Chairmanship of Minister of Coal periodically reviews the status of safety in coal mines in the country and issues are addressed for ensuring safety of persons deployed in Coal Mines.