

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:561  
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2015  
Underground Mining of Coal  
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**Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is considering to explore underground mining, a method to extract deep-seated coal, is a bid to boost the coal production;
- (b) if so, details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): Underground mining is presently contributing around 7% to the total production of Coal India Limited (CIL) and 19% of Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL). To boost up the coal production by extraction of deep seated coal deposit, following actions are being taken up by Coal companies:

â€¢ Introduction of Continuous Miners technology in 19 more underground mines have been planned against 8 Continuous Miners deployed in 7 underground mines of CIL.

â€¢ Work orders have already been issued to successful bidders to operate five mines (Jhanjra in Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL), Kapuria, Moonidih (both XV & XVI seam), and Muraidih in Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) by longwall technology. In Moonidih mine, longwall has already been started at XVI seam.

â€¢ In SCCL mines, at present 2 Continuous Miners and 2 Longwalls are in operation. Adriyala Shaft Project (Rated capacity 2.81 MTPA) with Longwall Technology started production from 15th October, 2014. 13 Continuous Miners with capacity of 5.20 MT and 2 Longwall units with capacity of 2.60 MT have been planned in the next 5 years.

Efforts have also been made to identify suitable prospective sites for application of Highwall Mining which is a mining method to extract coal from an exposed coal seam at the terminating line of an opencast mine. At present this technology has been implemented in Sharda Opencast project of South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL).

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