

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1652

ANSWERED ON:30.07.2015

Fire in Coal Mine in Jharia

Senguttuvan Shri Balasubramaniam

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any headway has been made in putting out the fire in the coal mine in Jharia which has been raging since 1916 and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether nearly 50,000 persons, who have been identified by the Jharia Rehabilitation and Development Authority, as having been affected by the coal fire, have been provided with alternative accommodation and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of estimated quantity and value of coal that has been consumed by fire along with the present statues of fire; and
- (d) whether the Coal India Limited has approached any technologically advanced nation for technical knowhow to put out the fire and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a): In order to liquidate fire Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) adopted the strategy of digging out coal from fire areas from 2008. As its consequence, fire area as per latest report of National Remote Sensing Centre, ISRO, Deptt. of Space, Hyderabad, has reduced from 9 sq.km to 2.18 sq.km.

(b): As per the approved Master Plan, 54159 non-BCCL families affected by the coal fire and subsidence were identified for rehabilitation by Jharia Rehabilitation and Development Authority (JRDA). JRDA has constructed 3072 houses in Belgoria Township in which 1222 families have since been shifted. Further 1280 houses are under construction. Tender has been floated for construction of 4000 dwelling units G+3 (four storey).

(c): According to the approved Master Plan, an assessment was made during the year 2009 that about 37 Million Tonnes of prime coking coal was destroyed and 1453 Million Tonnes of coal was locked due to fire.

(d): Latest technologies for dealing with fires in Jharia Coalfield have been considered under Master Plan. Global expression of interest (Global EoI) prepared in consultation with Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDIL) and Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) was floated for inviting suitable consultant. Two international companies named DMT, Gmbtt & Co KG, Essen /Germany and MET CHEM Canada Inc. participated in the GoI. However both the companies failed to fulfill the stipulated requirements of the Global EoI.
