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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON COAL,  
MINES AND STEEL  
(2022-2023)**

**SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA**

**MINISTRY OF COAL**

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS  
(2023-24)**

**THIRTY-EIGHTH REPORT**



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**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI  
MARCH, 2023 /PHALGUNA, 1944 (SAKA)**

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(2023-24)**

**Presented to Lok Sabha on 21.03.2023**

**Laid in Rajya Sabha on 21.03.2023**



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**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

**MARCH, 2023/PHALGUNA, 1944 (SAKA)**

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**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
COAL, MINES AND STEEL (2022-2023)**

**Chairperson - Shri Rakesh Singh**

**Lok Sabha**

2. Dr. Venkata Satyavathi Beesetti
3. Shri Balubhau Narayanrao Dhanorkar alias Suresh
4. Shri Vijay Kumar Hansdak
5. Shri Kunar Hembram
6. Shri Chandra Prakash Joshi
7. Smt. Kavitha Maloth
8. Shri S. Muniswamy
9. Shri Ajay Nishad
10. Shri Basanta Kumar Panda
11. Shri S. R. Parthiban
12. Smt. Riti Pathak
13. Shri Komati Reddy Venkat Reddy
14. Shri Chunni Lal Sahu
15. Shri Arun Sao
16. Shri Khan Saumitra
17. Shri Sunil Kumar Singh
18. Shri Sushil Kumar Singh
19. Shri Pashupati Nath Singh
20. Dr. Tholkappiyar Thirumaavalavan
21. Shri Ashok Kumar Yadav

**Rajya Sabha**

22. Shri Subrata Bakshi
23. Smt. Mahua Maji
24. Shri Rungwra Narzary
25. Shri Samir Oraon
26. Ms. Saroj Pandey
27. Shri Deepak Prakash
28. Shri Aditya Prasad
29. Shri Dhiraj Prasad Sahu
30. Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy
31. Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav

**SECRETARIAT**

- |    |                      |                 |
|----|----------------------|-----------------|
| 1. | Shri J.M. Baisakh    | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri Arvind Sharma   | Director        |
| 3. | Shri Yash Pal Sharma | Under Secretary |

## **INTRODUCTION**

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Coal, Mines and Steel having been authorized by the Committee to present the Report on their behalf, present this Thirty-eighth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2023-24) relating to the Ministry of Coal.

2. The Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Coal were laid on the Table of the House on 08.02.2023. Under Rule 331E of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, the Standing Committee on Coal, Mines and Steel are required to consider the Demands for Grants of Ministries under their jurisdiction and make Report on the same to both the Houses of Parliament.

3. The Committee took evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Coal on 28.02.2023.

4. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their sitting held on 15.03.2023.

5. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the officials of the Ministry of Coal for the cooperation extended by them in furnishing written replies and for placing their considered views and perceptions before the Committee.

6. The Committee place on record their profound appreciation for the valuable assistance rendered to them by the officials of the Lok Sabha Secretariat attached to the Committee.

7. For facility of reference and convenience, the observations and recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters in Part-II of the Report.

**NEW DELHI;**  
**15 March, 2023**  
**24 Phalguna, 1944 (Saka)**

**RAKESH SINGH**  
**Chairperson,**  
**Standing Committee on Coal,**  
**Mines and Steel**

**REPORT**  
**PART-I**  
**CHAPTER -I**  
**INTRODUCTORY**

The Ministry of Coal has the overall responsibility of determining policies and strategies in respect of exploration and development of coal and lignite reserves, sanctioning of important projects of high value and for deciding all related matter. These key functions are exercised through its public sector undertakings, namely Coal India Limited (CIL), NLC India Limited (NLCIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL), a joint sector undertaking of Government of Telangana and Government of India with equity capital in the ratio of 51:49.

1.2 The following are the core objectives of Ministry of Coal to accomplish its vision of modern, sustainable and competitive coal sector enabling accelerated coal production for energy security and economic growth:

- "Ensuring achievement of Annual Action Plan targets for coal production and off-take, Over Burden Removal (OBR), lignite production and lignite based power generation.
- Infrastructure development to augment coal and washed coal production.
- Leveraging technology to minimize environmental externalities.
- Cutting edge research and development initiative.
- Enhancing exploration to augment resource base.
- Quality and reliability in customer services.
- Expeditious and joint solutions to inter-ministerial issues.
- Improving efficiency of Coal PSUs.
- Attracting private investments.
- Allocating coal blocks in a transparent manner."

1.3 The Committee have been informed that Ministry of Coal is concerned with exploration, development and exploitation of coal and lignite reserves in India. The subjects allocated to the Ministry of Coal (includes Subordinate or other organizations including PSUs concerned with their subjects) under the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961, as amended from time to time are as follows:

- Exploration and development of coking and non-coking coal and lignite deposits in India.
- All matters relating to production, supply, distribution and prices of coal.
- Development and operation of coal washeries other than those for which the Department of Steel is responsible.
- Low temperature carbonization of coal and production of synthetic oil from coal.
- All work related to coal gasification.

- Administration of the Coal Mines (Conservation and Development) Act, 1974 (28 of 1974).
- The Coal Mines Provident Fund Organization.
- Administration of the Coal Mines Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provision Act, 1948 (46 of 1948).
- Administration of the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1947 (32 of 1947)
- Rules under the Mines Act, 1952 (32 of 1952) for the levy and collection of duty of excise on coke and coal produced and dispatched from mines and administration of rescue fund.
- Administration of the Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition and Development) Act, 1957(20 of 1957).
- Administration of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (67 of 1957) and other Union Laws in so far the said Act and Laws relate to coal and lignite and sand for stowing, business incidental to such administration including questions concerning various States.

1.4 The inventory of Geological Resources of Indian coal as on 1.4.2022 and up to a depth of 1200 meter prepared by the Geological Survey of India on the basis of resources estimated by Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Limited (CMPDI), Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd. (MECL), Geological Survey of India (GSI), SCCL and others is 361.41 BT. The resources have been found mainly in Jharkhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Telangana and Maharashtra. The Lignite reserves in the country are estimated at around 46.20 BT (as on 01.04.2022)

1.5 There has been a continuous increase in overall consumption of coal over the years Consumption / actual supply of coal (including import) increased from 898.276 Million Tonne in 2017-18 to 1028.147 Million Tonne in 2021-22 (Provisional). The demand for coal for 2022-23 was estimated to be 1204 Million Tonne (MT), against which actual supply was only 786.469 Million Tonne (MT) (upto February, 2023).

1.6 From the Annual Report by the Ministry, the Committee note that to strengthen India's energy security and to realise Atma Nirbhar Bharat by replacing imported coal with domestically mined coal, Ministry of Coal has set a target to produce 1.31BT in financial year 2025 and 1.5BT in financial year 2030.

## **PUBLIC SECTOR/JOINT SECTOR COMPANIES**

### **I. Coal India Limited (CIL)**

1.7 The Committee note that Coal India Limited (CIL) is a 'Maharatna' company under the Ministry of Coal with headquarters at Kolkata, West Bengal. CIL is the single largest coal producing company in the world and one of the largest corporate employers. CIL operates through its subsidiaries, 84 mining areas spread over 8



provincial states of India. It has 318 mines, of which, 141 are underground, 158 opencast and 19 mixed mines.

1.8 CIL has ten fully owned subsidiary companies, viz. Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL); Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL); Central Coalfields Limited (CCL); Western Coalfields Limited (WCL); South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL); Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL); Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL); Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Limited (CMPDIL), CIL Navikarniya Urja Limited and CIL Solar PV Limited. In addition, CIL has a foreign subsidiary in Mozambique namely Coal India Africana Limitada (CIAL).

## **II The Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL)**

1.9 The Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) is a Joint Venture of Govt. of Telangana and the Govt. of India with equity participation in the ratio of 51:49 respectively.. SCCL is producing around 9% of the total all India Production. It is having the registered office in Kothagudem, Bhadrachari District of Telangana. SCCL is presently operating 18 Opencast Mines and 24 Underground Mines in the six districts of Telangana State with manpower of 43000 (as on 30.12.2022).

## **III NLC India Limited (NLCIL)**

1.10 NLC India Limited, a "Navratna" company with its registered office at Chennai and corporate office at Neyveli in Tamil Nadu is a pioneer among the Central Public Sector Enterprises in the energy sector. NLCIL has lined up a number of projects and spreading its wings in Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Jharkhand and Andaman and Nicobar Islands including expansion/ augmentation of its existing mines and power plants, setting up of green-field mines & power plants, setting up of wind and solar power plants across the country with PAN-India Foot Prints. NLCIL is an Energy Major, utilising Lignite & Coal and harnessing Thermal Power and Green Energy.

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## **SUBORDINATE OFFICE AND AUTONOMOUS ORGANISATION**

1.11 The office of the Coal Controller's Organization (CCO) – a subordinate office and Coal Mines Provident Fund Organization (CMPFO) – an autonomous body are under the administrative control of Ministry of Coal .

### **I. Coal Controller's Organisation**

1.12 The Coal Controller's Organization is a subordinate Office of Ministry of Coal, having its headquarters at Delhi and Regional Offices at Kolkata, Dhanbad, Ranchi, Bilaspur, Nagpur, Sambalpur, Kothagudem and Asansol.

1.13 The Coal Controller's Organization discharges various statutory functions derived from the following statutes:

- (i) The Colliery Control Rules, 2004 (Amended in 2021).
- (ii) The Coal Mines (Conservation & Development) Act, 1974 and The Coal Mines (Conservation & Development) Rules, 1975 (amended in 2011)
- (iii) The Collection of Statistics Act, 2008 and the Collection of Statistics (Central) Rules, 2011.
- (iv) The Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition & Development) Act, 1957(20 of 1957).
- (v) Act as Commissioner of Payment under CM (SP) Act, 2015.

## **II. Coal Mines Provident Fund Organization (CMPFO)**

1.14 The Coal Mines Provident Fund Organisation is an Autonomous body established under the Coal Mines Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1948, and is responsible for administering the Coal Mines Provident Fund Scheme, 1948, Coal Mines Deposit Linked Insurance Scheme, 1976, and Coal Mines Pension Scheme, 1998. These three schemes are administered by CMPFO under the guidance of tripartite Board of Trustees, consisting of Central and State Government's representatives, employers' representatives and employees' representatives. The Organization renders services to 3,52,683 Provident Fund subscribers and about 5,90,072 pensioners approximately as on 31.12.2022. The Headquarters of CMPFO is at Dhanbad and its 20 Regional Offices are spread across Coal producing states in the country.

1.15 As regards achievements of the Ministry of Coal during the year 2022-23, the Committee have been apprised as under :

### **(i) New sub-sector under the Policy for Auction of coal linkages of Non-Regulated Sector (NRS) :-**

A new Sub-sector 'Production of Syn-Gas leading to coal gasification' has been created in 2022 under the NRS linkage auctions in order to encourage coal gasification technology so that new consumers requiring coal for coal gasification are incentivized. This will also mitigate the adverse impacts of the conventional use of coal on the environment.

### **(ii) Single window for e-auction of coal:-**

Government has recently approved a new mechanism for e-auction of coal by the coal companies. The erstwhile sectoral e-auction windows Coal India Limited has been done

away with and henceforth, all the non linkage coal of the coal companies would be sold through one e-auction window of Coal India Limited / Singareni Collieries Company Limited. This single e-auction window will cater to all the Sectors viz., Power & Non-regulated Sector including traders. Therefore, coal of any particular grade would be sold in the market to all the consumers at one rate (One Nation -One Coal Grade, One Rate). A single e-auction window would enable the coal companies to sell coal through the market discovered price mechanism and thus, implementing this policy will lead to the removal of Market distortions. It shall also increase operational efficiencies and lead to an increase in domestic coal demand by efficiency in domestic coal market.

**(iii) Amendment to NCDP:**

To promote optimum utilization of coal resources in the national interest, enabling provisions has been made by way of amendment to the New Coal Distribution Policy (NCDP), 2007, in order to allow the coal produced from Closed / Abandoned / Discontinued mines of CIL / SCCL to be sold through a transparent and objective manner as per the guidelines issued by Ministry of Coal from time to time.

1.16 The detailed Demands for Grants (2023-24) of the Ministry of Coal were presented to Lok Sabha on 08.02.2023 and are given in Demand No. 9. While analyzing the detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Coal, the Committee in the present Report have examined various schemes/programmes of the Ministry and other PSUs under its administrative control. The detailed analysis along with observations/ recommendations of the Committee on various issues have been given in the succeeding chapters of the Report.

## CHAPTER – II

### ANALYSIS OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

#### A. SUMMARY OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS 2023-24

The Demands for Grants (2023-24) of the Ministry of Coal reflect a provision of ₹ 642.32 crore for Central Sector Schemes, Establishment and other Central Sector expenditure as Gross Budgetary Support. A provision of ₹ 574.14 crore has been made in the Demands for Grants for Central Sector Schemes including Coal Mines Pension Scheme (CMPS). A provision of ₹ 68.18 crore has been made for meeting establishment expenses for Secretariat, Coal Controller Organisation and Nominated Authority. The Scheme-wise funds provisions are as per the details given below-

Revenue		Allocation (₹ In crore)	
<b>Central Sector Scheme</b>			
1	Research & Development Programme	21.00	
2	Conservation Safety and Infrastructure Development in Coal Mines	Conservation and Safety in Coal Mines	20.00
		Development of Transportation Infrastructure in coalfields areas	72.00
		Environmental Measures and Subsidence Control	0.50
3	Exploration of Coal and Lignite	Regional Exploration	250.00*
		Detailed Drilling	200.00*
<b>Total Central Sector Schemes</b>		<b>563.50</b>	
4	Coal Mines Pension Scheme	10.64	
5	Secretariat, Coal Controller's Organisation and Nominated Authority	68.18	
<b>Total</b>		<b>642.32</b>	

\* To be met from National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET)

2.2 The Ministry of Coal informed the Committee that the Central Sector Scheme component of ₹ 563.50 crore includes mandatory provision of ₹ 56.35 crore towards North Eastern Region under the schemes of Research & Development, Exploration of Coal and Lignite & Conservation, Safety and Infrastructure Development in Coal Mines.

2.3 The Committee have desired to know the concrete initiatives taken/proposed to be taken to ensure optimum utilization of enhanced funds allocated for the year 2023-24. In this connection, the Ministry in a written reply have stated that during

2022-23, the allocated BE for the scheme of Exploration of Coal & Lignite was ₹ 250.00 crore and at RE stage the allocation has been revised to ₹ 430 crore. The entire fund except NER component is likely to be utilised. A provision of ₹ 450 crore has been made at BE 2023-24 for exploration of coal and lignite. For utilisation of these funds, the blocks have been already identified for detailed and promotional exploration. It is expected that optimum utilisation of fund will be achieved.

For S&T Scheme during 2022-23, BE is ₹ 10.00 crore and RE is ₹ 8.35 crore for S&T Scheme (under Research & Development). During 2023-24, BE is ₹ 21.00 crore. For taking up research projects during 2023-24, the Committee have been informed that various awareness initiatives have been undertaken and as a result, several proposals have been received. These proposals will be taken up for consideration in 2023-24 and it is expected that allocated funds will be fully utilized.

Details of funds under Conservation, Safety and Infrastructural Development in Coal Mines scheme is given below:

₹ In crore

Name of Scheme	BE 2023-24	Tentative amount already approved by CCDAC but yet to be reimbursed after 2022-23	Amount recommended by Sub-Committee for approval of CCDAC Committee
Conservation and Safety	20.00	4.13	15.95
Development of Transport Infrastructure	72.00	2.77	140.42

The amount recommended by Sub-Committee for approval of CCDAC Committee is based on the claims received from October, 2020 to September, 2021. Claims for the period from October, 2021 are yet to be scrutinized. So, the BE 2023-24 will be utilized fully.

2.4 The Ministry had proposed for an amount of ₹830.32 crore in BE for 2023-24 for various Central Sector Schemes and other Schemes/Programmes to the Ministry of Finance. Out of the proposed amount, Ministry of Finance has provided an amount of ₹ 642.32 crore. The details of budget estimates, proposal made by the Ministry and allocation made as per ceiling provided by the Ministry of Finance under the Schemes are given below:

The details of Budget Estimates 2023-24 proposed by Ministry of Coal and approved by Ministry of Finance as under:-			
(A) Central Sector Schemes	Particulars	BE: 2023-24 proposed by Ministry of Coal (₹ in crore)	BE 2023-24 approved by Ministry of Finance (₹ in crore)
(i)	Research & Development (R&D)	21.00	21.00
(ii)	Regional Exploration	350.00	250.00
(iii)	Detailed Drilling	230.00	200.00
(iv)	Environmental Measures and Subsidence Control	0.50	0.50
(v)	Conservation and Safety in Coal Mines	30.00	20.00
(vi)	Development of Transportation Infrastructure in Coalfield Areas	90.00	72.00
Total (Central Sector Schemes)		721.50	563.50

The Ministry have informed the Committee that with the reduction in annual budgetary allocations, they may not be able to reimburse outstanding amount due under committed liabilities for the year 2022-23.

#### Analysis of Demands for Grants (Plan) for the Last Three Years

2.5 The allocations for Schemes, Projects/Programmes of the Ministry of Coal for the year 2023-24 have been analyzed with reference to allocations in previous years as follows:

#### **Central Sector Schemes/Programmes being implemented with Gross Budgetary Support.**

(₹ in Crore)

Schemes	BE(Actuals) 2020-21	BE(Actuals) 2021-22	BE 2022-23	RE 2022-23	BE 2023-24
(i) Research & Development Programme	25(9.97)	18(8.35)	10	8.35	21
Percentage increase over Actual/BE of last	-	-28(-4.17)	-44.44	-27.39	110

year					
(ii)Regional Exploration	70(92.66)	130(110.71)	75	130	250
Percentage increase over Actual/BE of last year	-	85.71(20)	-42.31	8.33	233.33
(iii)Detailed Drilling in Non-CIL Blocks	630(352.18)	200(315.32)	175	300	200
% increase over Actual/BE of previous year	-	-68.25(-9.08)	-12.50	71.43	12.50
(iv)Environmental Measures and Subsidence Control (EMSC)	0.50	0.50(00)	0.50	0.50	0.50
% increase over Actual/BE of previous year	-	-	-	-	-
(v) Conservation and Safety in coal mines	10(4.44)	6(4.05)	4.00	4.00	20
Percentage increase over Actual/BE of last year	-	-40(-25)	-33.33	-11.11	400
(vi) Development of Transport infrastructure	84.48(45.21)	65.48(58.63)	50.04	50.04	72
Percentage increase over Actual/BE of last year	-	-22.49(30.36)	-23.61	-23.61	13.03

**Note :**

1. On account of subsuming of coal cess into GST, reimbursement for sand stowing in underground mines has been stopped as a result fund provision under the head Conservation and Safety has decreased.
2. Cabinet Note has been sent to Cabinet Secretariat and PMO for provision of enhanced fund for exploration in coal and lignite.

2.6 The Committee have been informed that the Budget Estimate during the financial year 2022-23 allocated for different programmes/schemes of the Ministry of Coal was ₹ 393.24 crore which was increased to ₹ 547.88 crore at RE stage and the actual utilization was ₹ 419.81 crore till February, 2023 of the revised allocation.

2.7 Regarding the utilization of the funds allotted during 2022-23, the Secretary, Ministry of Coal during evidence has stated that BE during 2022-23 has been revised at RE stage for various schemes while assessing the utilization thereof. The Ministry has assessed the condition of its use. The budgetary provision of 10% for North Eastern Region will not be utilized as at present, as there is no schemes to implement there. But for the next year, the Ministry will prepare an Action Plan and try to use at least Safety component. There is difficulty in exploration and R & D in the North Eastern Region. But apart from the NER , the Ministry have a plan to use 100% of the Budgetary provision.



## CHAPTER III

### IMPLEMENTATION OF CENTRAL SECTOR SCHEMES

3.1 Asked about the allocation of funds vis-à-vis utilization for various schemes of the Ministry of Coal during 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 along with reasons for shortfall, if any, the Ministry of Coal have informed the Committee as under:-

(₹ in Crore)

Scheme	Year	BE	RE	Utilization	Remark
Detailed Drilling	2020-21	630	385	352.18	NER component of budget could not be utilized because exploration could not be taken up at large scale due to medium to dense forest cover, rugged topography, adverse Law & Order conditions, special land tenancy Act & limited availability of exploration agencies.  Drilling in areas other than NER  Liabilities of ₹ 287 crore for FY 2020-21 and ₹ 197 crore for 2021-22. 100% fund is likely to be utilized.
	2021-22	200	350.05	315.32	
	2022-23	175	300	255.05 (upto 28.02.2023)	
Regional Exploration	2020-21	70	100	92.66	NER component of budget could not be utilized because exploration could not be taken up at large scale due to medium to dense forest cover, rugged topography, adverse Law & Order conditions, special land tenancy Act & limited availability of exploration agencies.  Drilling in areas other than NER  100% fund is likely to be utilized.
	2021-22	130	120	110.71	
	2022-23	75	130	114.12 (upto 28.02.2023)	
Research and Development/S & T	2020-21	25	12	9.97	During 2020-21, ₹9.97 crore (General + NER) was utilised and the remaining allocated fund (RE) not utilised as there was no guidelines/modalities for utilisation of SC & TSP component of fund.  During 2021-22, ₹7.54 crore (General + NER) was utilized. Allocated fund (RE) amounting to ₹ 1.94 crore for SC & TSP not utilised as there was no guidelines/modalities for utilisation of SC & TSP component of fund.  ₹ 6.30 crore (including NER) disbursed during the current year.
	2021-22	18	11.50	8.35	
	2022-23	10	8.35	6.30 (upto 28.02.2023)	

Conservation and Safety in Coal Mines	2020-21	10	6	4.44	NER component not utilized
	2021-22	6	4.50	4.05	NER component not utilized
	2022-23	4	4	3.60(upto 28.02.2023)	NER component not utilized
Development of Transport Infrastructure in Coalfield areas	2020-21	84.48	50.23	45.21	NER component not utilized
	2021-22	65.48	65.48	58.63	NER component not utilized
	2022-23	50.04	50.04	40.74(upto 28.02.2023)	NER component not utilized
Environmental Measures and Subsidence Control	2020-21	0.50	0.50	0	Under the provisions of Jharia and Raniganj Master Plans, Coal India Limited has to first spend ₹ 350 crore from its internal resources and this amount over ₹ 350 Cr is to be funded from Gross Budgetary Support. Since, total expenditure during the period have been less than ₹ 350 crores/year, hence there is no expenditure from CSS fund.
	2021-22	0.50	0.50	0	
	2022-23	0.50	0.50	0	

## REVIEW OF SCHEMES

### A. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

#### Status of Research Projects under S&T

3.2 The Research & Development (R&D) activities in Coal sector are administered through an apex body namely, Standing Scientific Research Committee (SSRC) with Secretary (Coal) as its Chairman. The other members of this apex body include Chairman Coal India Limited (CIL), Chairman cum Managing Directors (CMDs) of Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDI), Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) and NLC India Limited (NLCIL), Director General (DG) of Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS), Directors of concerned CSIR Laboratories, Representatives from Department of S&T (DST), NITI Aayog and Research Institutions, Chairman of Technical Sub-committee, etc. The main functions of SSRC are to plan, programme, budget and oversee the implementation of research projects. The SSRC is assisted by a Technical Sub-Committee headed by Head of Department (HoD) (Mining) of IIT-KGP/BHU/ISM on annual rotation basis. The R&D projects are covered under 7 thematic areas viz. Advanced technology/ methodology for improvement of production & productivity, improvement of safety, Health and environment, Waste to wealth, Alternative use of coal and clean coal technology, Coal beneficiation and utilization, Exploration, Innovation and indigenization (Under Make-in-India concept). CMPDI acts as the Nodal Agency for co-ordination of research activities in the coal sector, which involves identification of 'Thrust Areas' for research activities, identification of agencies which can take up the research work in the identified fields, processing the proposals for Government approval, preparation of budget estimates, disbursement of fund and monitoring the progress of implementation of the projects, etc.

#### FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

3.3 The Ministry have furnished a statement showing Budget Estimate, Revised Estimate and actual utilization during the last three years alongwith BE 2023-24 as under:-

(₹ in crore)

Name of the Scheme	Year	BE	RE	Actual utilization	Remark
Research and Development/	2020-21	25	12	9.97	During 2020-21, ₹9.97 crore (General + NER) was utilised and

S&T	2021-22	18	11.50	8.35	the remaining allocated fund (RE) not utilised as there was no guidelines/modalities for utilisation of SC & TSP component of fund.
	2022-23	10	8.35	6.30 (upto 28.02.2023)	During 2021-22, ₹7.54 crore (General + NER) was utilized. Allocated fund (RE) amounting to ₹ 1.94 crore for SC & TSP not utilised as there was no guidelines/modalities for utilisation of SC & TSP component of fund.  ₹ 6.30 crore (including NER) disbursed during the current year.
	2023-24	21			

3.4 It may be seen from the above that ₹ 10.00 crore allocated for R & D Scheme at BE 2022-23 was reduced to ₹ 8.35 crore at RE stage and actual utilization was ₹ 6.30 crore till February, 2023.

3.5 The Committee enquired whether the Ministry will be able to utilize the remaining funds by 31.03.2023, the Ministry in a written reply have informed that funds under Scheduled Castes and Tribal Area Sub-Plan may not be utilized.

3.6 When enquired whether the funds allocated under R&D for 2023-24 are sufficient for implementing the Scheme, the Ministry have stated that BE for the year 2023-24 (i.e. ₹ 21.00 crore) is expected to be utilised for on-going and new projects to be approved subject to issuance of guidelines/modalities for utilisation of SC & TSP component of fund. However, if required, additional fund may be sought at RE stage.

### Physical Performance

3.7 The Status of Coal S & T projects during 2022-23 is as under:-

Sl. No.	Parameters	Quantity
1.	Projects on going as on 01.04.2022	11
2.	Projects completed during 2022-23 (Till 31.12.2022)	02
3.	Projects terminated during 2022-23 (Till 31.12.2022)	01
3.	Projects approved by SSRC during 2022-23 (Till 31.12.2022)	09
5.	Projects on going as on 31.12.2022	17

3.8 On being asked about the steps that have been taken or proposed to be taken by CMPDI to ensure timely completion of various ongoing and new projects under R&D, the Ministry in a written reply have informed as under:

- (a) Progress of Coal S&T projects is monitored by CMPDI in review meetings at CMPDI and followed up at regular interval. Progress is also reviewed by the Technical Sub-committee of Standing Scientific Research Committee (SSRC) as well as the SSRC headed by the Secretary (Coal). Implementing agencies submit quarterly progress reports of the projects to CMPDI which, after examination, are placed before Technical Sub-committee and SSRC.
- (b) Periodic visits to the implementing institutes are undertaken by CMPDI officials to monitor the progress of these projects and necessary assistance is extended to them.

**B. PROMOTIONAL (REGIONAL) EXPLORATION IN COAL AND LIGNITE**

3.9 Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL), State Governments and Central Mine Planning and Institute Limited (CMPDI) are conducting Promotional Exploration under the Ministry of Coal's Plan scheme of "Promotional Exploration for Coal & Lignite".

3.10 The Ministry have furnished a statement showing Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates and actual expenditure of funds during 2022-23 alongwith BE for the year 2023-24 under the Promotional (Regional) Exploration in Coal and Lignite Scheme as under:-

(₹ in crore)

Year	BE	RE	Utilized	Remark
2022-23	75.00	130.00	114.12 (till 28.02.2023)	The funds except NER component will be utilized fully.
2023-24	250			

3.11 It may be seen from above that ₹ 75.00 crore allocated for Regional Exploration at BE 2022-23 were increased to ₹ 130.00 crore at RE stage and actual utilization was ₹ 114.12 crore upto February, 2023.

3.12 The Committee enquired whether the Ministry will be able to utilize the remaining funds and achieve the remaining Exploration target by 31.03.2023, the Ministry in a written reply have stated that the funds except NER component will be fully utilized. The likely expenditure is inclusive of the part liabilities of about ₹ 57 crore of previous year.

3.13 As regards the Exploration target, the Committee have been informed that against the Exploration target of 0.40 lakh meter for the year 2022-23 , the exploration target was increased to 0.65 lakh meter at RE stage and 0.57 lakh meter of Exploration has been carried out upto January, 2023. The Ministry have further stated that Exploration target set during 2022-23 will be achieved.

3.14 On being asked about the physical target set for 2023-24 and whether the funds provided at BE stage are sufficient for meeting the targets, the Ministry in a written reply have informed that the proposed target for 2023-24 is 2.00 lakh meter. The funds provided will be sufficient to achieve the proposed target of 2.00 lakh meter & 2D seismic survey in regional exploration. The additional funds, if required, will be sought at RE Stage.

**C. Detailed Drilling in Non CIL Blocks**

3.15 **Central Mine Planning and Institute Limited (CMPDI)** carries out Detailed Exploration in CIL and Non-CIL blocks as per strict timelines to bring resources falling in **indicated** and **inferred** category into the **measured** (proven) category. The exploratory drilling in non-CIL/captive Mining blocks is taken up under the Ministry of Coal's Plan scheme of "Detailed Drilling in Non-CIL Blocks".

3.16 The Ministry have furnished a statement showing Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates and actual expenditure of funds during 2022-23 alongwith BE for the year 2023-24 under the Detailed Drilling in Non CIL Blocks as under:-

(₹ in crore)

Year	BE	RE	Utilized	Remark
2022-23	175.00	300.00	255.05 (till February, 2023)	The funds except NER component will be utilized fully.
2023-24	200			

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3.17 It may be seen from above that during 2022-23, ₹ 175 crore were allocated at BE stage, which were increased to ₹ 300 crore at RE stage and actual expenditure has been ₹ 255.05 crore upto February, 2023.

3.18 The Committee enquired whether the Ministry will be able to utilize the remaining funds by 31.03.2023, the Ministry in a written reply has stated that the funds except NER component will be fully utilized. The likely expenditure is inclusive of the part liabilities of about ₹ 197 crore of previous year.

3.19 The Committee have been informed that against the drilling target of 1.60 lakh meter for the year 2022-23, the drilling target was reduced to 1.35 lakh meter at RE stage and 0.73 lakh meter of drilling has been carried out upto December, 2022. The Ministry have further stated that drilling target set during 2022-23 will be achieved.

3.20 The Committee desired to know about the hurdles being faced in carrying out detailed drilling and the measures that have been undertaken by the Ministry to address the same. In this regard, the Ministry in a written reply have informed that the hurdles being faced in carrying out detailed drilling are due to statutory prospecting permission for drilling in forest areas from Forest Departments of States. Exploration of a large number of blocks are incomplete and exploration programme may have to be shelved / abandoned if the statutory permission is not granted. The success of plan will also depend upon hindrance free access (Law & Order problems) to explore in coal & lignite bearing areas. The issue of law and order hindering mining and allied activities have been raised by the officials of Ministry of Coal with the various State Government officials on frequent basis in the past.

#### **D. Conservation and Safety in Coal Mines**

3.21 Conservation of coal is an important area, particularly when our Coal reserves are finite. The aspect of conservation of coal is taken into account right from the planning stage and maximum recovery is ensured during the implementation stage. Mines are designed to work the coal seams either through opencast or through underground methods depending on the technical feasibility and economic viability. Mechanised opencast (OC) mining is presently the commonly adopted technology for extraction of thick seams at shallow depth. This is also important from the conservation point of view since the percentage recovery by this technology is around 80% to 90%. Presently, this technology dominates the

coal industry contributing over 94% of country's coal production. Further, whenever it is feasible, the developed pillars of underground mines are also being extracted through opencast operations. Introduction of new technologies like longwall method, shortwall method, highwall mining and Continuous Miner technology have resulted in increased percentage of extraction in underground mining (UG). With the improvement in roof support technology with mechanized bolting and resin capsules, it has been possible to maintain wider gallery span and extract seams under bad roof conditions more efficiently resulting in improved conservation of Coal.

3.22 Sand stowing in underground mines is yet another effective means of coal conservation, which is widely in use for extraction of coal pillars from underground coal seams lying below built-up areas, such as important surface structures, railway lines, rivers, nallahs, etc. which otherwise would have resulted in locking of coal in pillars. Stowing also helps in the extraction of thick seams in several lifts increasing the percentage of extraction. Due to scarcity of sand, various experimental trials are being conducted to use other materials like fly ash, boiler ash, crushed overburden material, etc. for stowing in underground mines as a substitute for sand. Currently, crushed overburden material is being used commercially for stowing purposes in underground coal mines where sand is not available in the near vicinity of the mine or it is costlier to transport sand from distant river sources.

3.23 The fund allocated under Conservation and Safety in coal mines Scheme at BE, RE stage and utilization during 2022-23 alongwith BE 2023-24 is given as under:-

(₹ in crore)			
Year	BE	RE	Actual
2022-23	4.00	4.00	3.60 (till February, 2023)
2023-24	20		

3.24 It may be seen from above that Budgetary allocation for the year 2022-23 was ₹ 4.00 crore and actual expenditure has been ₹ 3.60 crore up to February, 2023. The Ministry have informed that they will be able to utilize the remaining funds by 31.03.2023, except NER component which may not be utilized fully.



3.25 When asked whether the funds allocated for the year 2023-24 will be sufficient enough to meet the requirements, the Ministry in their reply have stated that fund of ₹ 20 crore allocated for Conservation and Safety in Coal Mines for 2023-24 seems to be sufficient as there are approved projects amounting to ₹ 4.13 crore which CCDA Committee approved against the claims of different coal companies for completed works in previous years. Also CCDA Sub-Committee has recommended claims amounting to ₹ 15.95 crore upto September, 2022 which is to be approved by CCDA Committee. The additional funds, if required, will be sought at RE Stage.

3.26 Asked to provide comprehensive data on accidents at coal/Lignite mining sites, including separate figures on injuries and casualties, as recorded/reported during the last three years, the Ministry in their written reply have submitted as under:

A number of fatal and serious accidents including corresponding injuries that took place in mines of CIL and its subsidiaries during the three years are as under:-

Subs.	Fatal Accidents			Fatalities			Serious Accidents			Serious Injuries		
	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
ECL	6	7	2	7	8	2	18	10	9	22	11	9
BCCL	2	2	4	2	3	5	9	6	2	9	7	3
CCL	1	1	2	1	1	2	7	3	3	7	4	3
NCL	2	3	1	2	3	1	14	9	9	15	9	9
WCL	4	6	1	4	6	2	6	6	10	7	7	12
SECL	10	7	8	10	7	8	15	21	25	16	21	26
MCL	4	1	0	4	1	0	4	2	4	4	2	4
NEC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CIL	29	27	18	30	29	20	73	57	62	80	61	66

3.27 When enquired about the steps taken by the Coal/Lignite Companies to ensure accountability/responsibility for any serious/fatal accident, the Ministry in a written reply have informed the Committee that appropriate action has been taken by CIL and its subsidiaries against those persons including mine officials, who were held responsible in departmental Internal Safety Organization (ISO) inquiries for those fatal accidents after completion of due proceedings as stipulated under the Conduct Disciplinary and Appeal (CDA) Rules – 1978 of CIL (amended as on date).

#### **E. Development of Transport Infrastructure in Coalfield areas**

3.28 As per the Colliery Control (Amendment) Rule 2021, financial assistance is given by the Central Government for development of Roads and creation of Rail Infrastructure by way of reimbursement under this scheme. The coal companies

submit their claims for reimbursement from CCDA (Coal Conservation and Development Advisory) which are scrutinized at Coal Controller Organization (CCO) and are placed to CCDA Sub-Committee for recommendation to CCDA Committee. The CCDA Committee meets twice in a year for approving the claims of coal companies and accordingly funds are disbursed from CCDA Scheme.

3.29 In order to achieve the planned growth in production and evacuation in future, CIL has undertaken the construction of major railway infrastructure projects. These railway infra projects are being implemented by either Indian Railways (on deposit basis) or through JV companies with IRCON representing Railways, Subsidiary Company (representing CIL) and concerned State Government.

3.30 There are three major rail infrastructure projects being implemented on deposit basis and four Rail infra projects being implemented by JV companies.

3.31 The fund allocated under Development of Transport Infrastructure in Coalfields Areas at BE, RE stage and utilization during 2022-23 alongwith BE 2023-24 are as under:-

(₹ in crore)			
Year	BE	RE	Actual
2022-23	50.04	50.04	40.74 (till February ,2023)
2023-24	72		

3.32 It may be seen from above that Budgetary Provision under the Development of Transport Infrastructure in coalfield areas for the year 2022-23 was ₹ 50.04 crore and actual expenditure has been ₹ 40.74 crore up to February, 2023.

3.33 When asked whether the Ministry will be able to utilize the entire funds during 2022-23 under the Scheme, the Committee have been informed that funds under NER and ST components may not be utilized fully.

3.34 On being asked to furnish data on expenditure and reimbursements made under this scheme during the last three years, the Ministry in a written reply have submitted as under:-

Data on expenditure and reimbursements made during last three years:

Year	Budget Head	(₹ in Crore)						
		BE	RE	Actual Approved by CCDAC	Spill Over from previous year	Total Requirement	Fund released by MoC	Spill over to next year
2019-20	Development of Transportation Infrastructure in Coalfields	130.50	90.00	159.38	68.50	227.88	82.72	146.89
2020-21		84.48	50.23	0.00	146.89	146.89	45.15	101.74
2021-22		65.48	65.48	0.40	101.74	102.14	58.63	43.51

#### Year-wise achievement of DTIC Scheme

Year	No. of Projects assisted			Total Amount approved by CCDAC	Amount Disbursed by Ministry of Coal
	Rail	Road	Total	Cost in ₹ Crore	₹ in Crore
2019-20	5	12	17	159.38	80.99
2020-21	3	4	7	0	45.15
2021-22	1	0	0	0.40	58.63

**Remarks:** NER component of fund could not be utilized fully due to non-receipt of claims from NEC. In the year 2021-22, only spill over amount from previous years could be reimbursed.

## CHAPTER-IV

### PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE OF COAL/LIGNITE PSUs

#### A. Physical Performance

4.1 As regards, the total demand of coal in the country including Coking and Non-Coking Coal and domestic supply and import of coal to meet the demand during last 3 years, the Committee have been informed as under:

(Figures in Million Tonne)

Year	Total Coal Demand			Domestic coal Production/Supply		Import of Coal	
	Coking	Non-Coking	Total	Coking	Non-Coking	Coking	Non-Coking
2019-20	63.74	891.97	955.71	11.91	695.27	51.83	196.70
2020-21	60.16	845.98	906.14	8.96	681.93	51.20	164.05
2021-22	66.32	961.61	1027.93	9.16	809.84	57.16	151.77

The demand of coal is met by Coal Companies of CIL, SCCL, others (Captive) and import.

4.2 The Ministry have furnished the following details showing company wise coal production target and actual during the last three years:-

(Figures in Million Tonnes)

Subsidiary	2021-22		2020-21		2019-20	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
ECL	52.00	32.43	52.00	45.01	53.50	50.40
BCCL	30.00	30.51	29.00	24.66	36.00	27.74
CCL	74.00	68.85	74.00	62.59	77.00	66.89
NCL	119.00	122.43	113.00	115.04	106.25	108.05
WCL	60.00	57.71	60.00	50.28	56.00	57.64
SECL	172.00	142.51	172.00	150.61	170.50	150.55
MCL	163.00	168.17	160.00	148.01	160.00	140.36
NEC	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.04	0.75	0.52
TOTAL CIL	670.00	622.64	660.00	596.22	660.00	602.14
SCCL	68.00	65.02	67.5	50.58	67.00	64.04
Captive	110.00	90.53	101.00	69.28	83.00	64.70
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>848.00</b>	<b>778.19</b>	<b>828.50</b>	<b>716.08</b>	<b>810.00</b>	<b>730.88</b>

4.3 On being asked to furnish details of physical targets set for coal production for the year 2022-23 along with reasons for variation/shortfall in achieving the set targets, the Ministry have informed the Committee as under:-

S.No.	Company	Target 2022-23	Target upto Jan.,2023	Actual Upto Jan., 2023	%Achievement
1.	CIL	700.00	548.29	550.92	100.48
2.	SCCL	70.00	56.85	54.10	95.18
3.	Captive and Others	141.00	117.50	93.22	79.34
Total All India		911.00	722.64	698.24	96.63

The Ministry have also stated that CIL has achieved the production target till end January, 2023 with a small lead. Coal production under captive & other mines is lagging by about 20% till January, 2023 due to many of the new mines being not able to start production, land issues and local protest. Similarly, issues like delayed forest clearance for a couple of mines, heavy rainfall in the summer, and adverse Geo-mining condition in underground mines have also affected the production of SCCL.

#### **UG Production Drive**

4.4 As regards UG Production Drive, the Committee have been informed that driven up by environmental concerns, CIL is focusing to unlock its trapped underground reserves. UG coal is superior in quality and reduces import burden for higher grades of coal. It is also minimally invasive on land avoiding its degradation and society friendly. For UG output pursuit CIL is leveraging a mix of mass production technologies into operation. CIL has introduced 25 Continuous Miners in 18 UG mines with total production capacity of 10.85 MTY and planning for deployment of 41 more in 20 mines by March, 2026. Four Powered Support Longwall (PSLW) equipment are also proposed to be installed by March, 2027. CIL is also adopting business models like mine developers and operators and outsourcing of operations. Progress is on for reopening 30 discontinued mines having estimated mineable reserves of around 600 MTs.

4.5 Regarding fulfilling the target for production of coal during 2022-23, the Chairman, CIL while appearing before the Committee has stated that as far as production is concerned till January, 2023 production of coal is 550.92, Production of coal is more in February and CIL will achieve production target of 700 Million Tonne during the current year itself.

4.6 The Committee have been further informed as under:-

Production: CIL's production of 619.7 MTs till February, 2022-23 registered a strong 14.3% growth as compared to 542.4 MTs of same period last year. Quantum gain in production of 77.3 MTs which will help a major gain in breaching the production target of 700 MTs of Financial Year, 2023 and CIL is likely to achieve a record making 80 MT output increase which would be almost double to the previous high of 44.5 MTs achieved in 2015-16.

Over Burden Removal: Till February, 2023 CIL excavated 1486 million cubic metres (M.CuM) of OB, posting a strong 21% growth over same period last year and achieved 101.4% of progressive target. Backed by high growth, CIL is confident of achieving Financial Year, 2023 target of 1634 M.Cu.M. The incremental 272 M.CuM would be highest ever volume increase in a year. OB ensures future production of coal easier and faster.

Coal Off-Take: CIL's total coal supplies increased 30.6 MTs on a yearly basis to 630.5 MTs by February, 2023. CIL supplied 46 MTs more coal to power sector till February, 2023 year at 534 MTs. This is 9.4% growth over 488 MTs of same period last year. CIL aims to supply 20 MTs more coal to power plants than annual programme of 565 MT.

4.7 CMD, SCCL during evidence has apprised the Committee that against 70 Million Tonne target for production of coal during 2022-23, SCCL has achieved 54.10 Million Tonne till January, 2023 and by March end SCCL will be achieving 68 Million Tonne. Due to delay in forest clearance for Naini project in Odisha, SCCL will not be able to achieve remaining 2 Million Tonne target during 2022-23.

4.8 Regarding fulfilling the target for production of Lignite during 2022-23, CMD, NLCIL during evidence has informed the Committee that this year target is 23 Million Tonne and against that NLCIL have achieved 20.9 Million Tonne which is 89 % of the targets set. The set target will be achieved before the end of financial year 2022-23.

4.9 Asked about the projected target of production of coal/lignite during 2023-24 (in Million Tonne) by CIL, SCCL & NLCIL, the Ministry have furnished the following information:-

(A) Yearly projected coal production target (in Million Tonne)	
Name of Companies	2023-24
(i) Coal India Ltd	780.00
(ii) SCCL	70.00
(iii) Captive & Others	162.00
Total	1012.00
(B) Yearly Projected lignite production target (in Million Tonne)	
(i) NLCIL	26.50

## B. Financial Performance

4.10 During oral evidence of the Ministry of Coal, through a Power Point Presentation, the Committee have been informed about the Capex of Coal/Lignite PSUs as under:

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of PSU	2021-22				2022-23				2023-24
		BE	RE	Actual	% of Actual w.r.t RE	BE	RE	Actual (upto Jan. 2023)	% of Actual w.r.t RE	BE
1	CIL	14685	14685	15401	105%	16500	16500	13024	79%	16500
2	NLCIL	2061	2061	2542	124%	2920	2920	1803	62%	2880
3	SCCL	2500	2000	1714	86%	2000	1600	1606	100.4%	1650
TOTAL		19246	18746	19657	105%	21420	21020	16433	78.17	21030

4.11 It may be seen from above that during 2022-23 against plan capex outlay of ₹ 16500, ₹ 2920 and ₹ 2000 (₹ 1600 crore at RE stage) of CIL, NLCIL and SCCL respectively, the actual utilization (upto January, 2023) has been ₹ 13024 crore (79%) by CIL, 1803 crore (62%) by NLCIL and 1606 crore (100.4% of RE) by SCCL. The plan outlays by CIL, NLCIL and SCCL for 2023-24 has been earmarked at ₹ 16500 crore, ₹ 2880 crore and ₹ 1650 crore respectively.

4.12 The Committee enquired whether Coal/Lignite PSUs will be able to utilize the remaining funds by 31.03.2023. In this regard, Chairman, CIL during evidence has stated that against the CAPEX of ₹ 16500 crore, CIL has utilized ₹ 13024 crore. Remaining amount of ₹ 3500 crore will be utilized within two months. Chairman, CIL has further stated that CIL will achieve more than the CAPEX target.

4.13 The Committee have also been informed that CIL achieved an all-time record high consolidated profit after tax (PAT) of ₹ 22,597 Crores, in the nine months till December, 2022, surpassing even the highest PAT that the company previously achieved for an entire financial year, which was ₹ 17,464 Crores in 2018-19. Their nine month period profit posted by CIL in a healthy 112% growth compared to ₹ 10,663 Crores of same period Financial Year, 2022.

### **Other Initiatives by CIL**

#### **Creating Wealth from Waste – OBR to Sand**

4.14 The Committee observe that Manufactured Sand is made from 4 times the waste coming out of coal production. More recently Northern Coalfields Ltd. Ltd. has started production of M Sand at Amlohari project on the basis of pilot project at Singrauli.

4.15 In this regard, the Committee desired to know about such project being considered in other subsidiaries of Coal India Limited. In this regard, the Ministry have stated that CIL is manufacturing sand from overburden material. Four such projects, two in Western Coalfields Ltd. and one each in Eastern Coalfields Ltd and Northern Coalfields Ltd till January, 2023 have cumulatively produced 2.37 Lakh Cubic metres of sand from OBR. This initiative makes cheaper sand available for construction in eco-friendly manner.

#### **Effective Utilization of Mine Water**

4.16 The Committee have been informed that in the coal/lignite PSUs, out of 7,848 Lakh Kilo Litre mine water discharge till March, 2022 around 47 percent of the water is used by the nearby communities both for domestic and irrigation purpose in 871 villages {CIL (727 Villages), SCCL (104 Villages) and NLCIL (40 Villages)} and 16.18 Lakh population is benefitted. Another 38 percent of the water is used for own domestic and industrial purpose, 15% is used for ground water recharge resulting in zero discharge from mines and water that is acidic in nature and rest is kept as ground water recharge and for future use. As regards utilization of mine water discharged from CIL's mines, the Committee have been informed that 11.10 Lakh people in 837 villages have benefitted in the proximity of CIL's mining areas for domestic and irrigation purpose during the year which is 110 more villages and 42,000 more populace benefitted as compared to entire Financial Year, 2021-22.



## Greening the Mining Areas

4.17 According to the Ministry of Coal, CIL's plantation in its mining areas soared almost double to present 1613 Ha from 862 Ha of Financial Year, 2021. CIL is converting its abandoned mines into eco-parks which have become popular as eco-tourism points. A total of 30 such eco-parks are already attracting steady footfalls. Plans are afoot for creation of more eco parks, eco-tourism sites and eco-restoration sites in mining areas.

4.18 Regarding fulfilling the CAPEX target during 2022-23, CMD, NLCIL during evidence has informed the Committee that against CAPEX of ₹2920 crore, 84 % fund has been utilized and the company will utilize 100% CAPEX during the current year.

4.19 As regards underutilization of CAPEX by SCCL during 2022-23, the Ministry in their written reply have stated that SCCL is anticipating Capex of ₹1800 Crore by the end of March, 2023 against the target of ₹2000 Crore. Reasons for shortfall is mainly due to delay in supply and installation of Flue Gas Desulfurization (FGD) at Singareni Thermal Power Plant (STPP) and 66 MW (3rd phase) Solar power projects.

4.20 When asked about the steps taken/proposed by Coal/Lignite PSUs to ensure full utilization of budgeted outlays for the year 2023-24, the Ministry in a written reply have submitted as under:-

The steps taken by CIL for full utilization budgeted outlays are as follows:

- a. For advanced action towards finalization of capital activity for the year 2023-24 Subsidiary companies have approved their respective capital budget for the year 2023-24 by December, 2022 and the overall capital budget has been approved by CIL Board in January, 2023.
- b. Stringent monitoring of capital activities are being done up to highest level of CIL. Moreover, CAPEX is being reviewed by CIL Board on monthly basis and is being reviewed regularly at Subsidiary Head Quarters and CIL HQ levels
- c. Subsidiary companies have identified the various activities against capital outlay for the year 2023-24. All these activities are under finalization to ensure expenditure from the very onset of next fiscal, which will pave the way for full utilization of budgeted outlays for the year 2023-24.

- d. Expenditure of CIL is expected in major infrastructure projects such as Rail corridor, CHP-Silo and their allied infrastructure for which tenders are already in place.
- e. CIL also has plans to invest in the diversification initiatives which include Solar power for which a substantial expenditure is expected during 2023-24.

SCCL has stated that following efforts are being put for achieving 2023-24 CAPEX target:

- Regular follow up for speeding up of 66MW Solar power projects which are in progress and the installation works of Flue Gas Desulphurization (FDG) at Singareni Thermal Power Plant (STPP).
- All the efforts will be put forth for time bonded tendering process to speed up the works and regular follow up will be made with state government for fast resolving of Land and R&R issues.

NLCIL has stated that all out efforts will be taken to achieve the Capex target of ₹ 2880 crore during 2023-24.

### **C. FIRST MILE CONNECTIVITY**

4.21 The Committee have been informed that Ministry of Coal have taken up 71 First Mile connectivity Projects for seamless evacuation of coal-8 Projects (6-CIL & 2-SCCL) of 95.5 MTPA capacity have been commissioned. As regards, 44 First Mile Connectivity (FMC) projects for coal evacuation through Rail, the Ministry have stated that these have been planned in two phases to strengthen evacuation facility.

CIL has taken steps to upgrade the mechanized coal transportation and loading system under 'First Mile Connectivity' projects. In the first phase, CIL has identified 35 First Mile Connectivity (FMC) Projects in mines having capacity 4 Mty and above, of 414.5 MTPA capacity. These Projects shall help increase mechanized evacuation from 150 MTPA currently to 565 MTPA by 2023-24. These infrastructure Projects will help in improving coal quality, savings in under-loading charges and a positive impact on the environment.

Out of these 35 FMC Projects, 6 Projects of 82 MTPA capacity has been commissioned and 3 Projects of 30 MTPA are anticipated to be commissioned by March, 2023. Projects of 300 MTPA capacity are under various stages of construction and are on schedule. The Letter of Authorization (LOA)/Work Order of 2 FMC projects of 32 MTPA has been terminated since site for construction for these

projects could not be handed over due to pending forestry clearances. All the FMC Projects of Phase-I are anticipated to be completed by Financial Year 2023-24.

In FMC Phase – II, 9 FMC Projects of 57 MTPA has been planned, out of which 3 FMC Projects totaling to 14 MTPA are under construction. The remaining 6 Projects are under different stages of formulation and tendering. All the FMC Projects in IIInd Phase are anticipated to be commissioned by Financial Year 2024-25. After implementation of FMC Phase- I and FMC Phase-II, Coal India Limited will increase the mechanized evacuation to 623 MTPA by Financial Year 2024-25.

4.22 The Committee enquired about Action Plan prepared to provide funds and to ensure the progress and success of Rail Projects for coal evacuation. In this context, Chairman, CIL during evidence has informed the Committee that FMC projects are very special projects. Its output will have an impact on production, evacuation and environment. CIL had already identified 35 FMC projects and all these projects have been tendered. However, among these projects Magadh and Amarpali are such projects in which forest clearance has not been received. Except these two projects, work is going on in the remaining projects. Although there has been delay due to Covid but all these projects will be completed by Financial Year 2024. These projects are being continuously monitored and all are in advance stage. Apart from these projects, there are nine other projects out of which work has started on three projects and CIL are going to start work on the remaining projects very soon. CIL has set a target for completion of these projects by 2027 and are spending ₹ 13000 to ₹ 14000 crore through its internal resources.

#### **D. Initiatives under PM Gati Shakti**

4.23 The Committee have been informed that the Ministry of Coal, in view of cleaner environment in coal transportation has given momentum in rail evacuation and is also initiating new efforts to gradually move away from road movement of coal in country. Planned construction of new broad gauge rail lines in Greenfield coal bearing areas, extending the rail links to newer loading points and doubling and tripling the rail lines in some cases will enhance rail capacity considerably.

Ministry of Coal has undertaken 13 Railway Projects to develop multimodal connectivity and identified missing infrastructure gaps for each projects. Four Railway projects are successfully mapped in the National Master Plan (NMP) portal under High Impact projects which will be developed in the States of Jharkhand and

Odisha and will facilitate movement of coal with rapid logistics and wider connectivity for all the commercial miners.

**Railway Projects Commissioned during 2022**

1. Bhadrachalam Road-Sattupalli New BG rail Line.
2. MCRL Phase-I Angul Balram Rail Link

## PART-II

### OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

#### FUND ALLOCATION

1. The Committee note that during the financial year 2022-23, against the Budgeted amount of ₹393.24 crore allocated for different programmes/ schemes of the Ministry of Coal , the RE were ₹ 547.88 crore and an amount of ₹ 419.81 crore was utilized upto February, 2023 which is 76.62 % of the revised allocation. The Secretary, Ministry of Coal during evidence assured the Committee that Revised Estimates for the year will be fully utilized except funds allocated for North Eastern Region. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry of Coal should prepare an action plan for fund utilization in NER in future and take up the matter with the North Eastern State Governments so that constraints being faced in implementation of various projects in the Region are addressed.

## PLAN OUTLAY

2. The Committee further note that the Ministry of Coal for their Central Sector Schemes and other Schemes/Programmes have been allocated an amount of ₹ 642.32 crore (₹563.50 crore for Central Sector Schemes and ₹ 78.82 crore for other Schemes/Programmes) for Financial Year 2023-24. The Ministry have stated that they may need more funds due to committed liabilities for the year 2022-23. Taking note of the importance of ongoing centrally sponsored schemes for increase in coal inventory, development of coal infrastructure, etc., the Committee recommend the Ministry to make enhanced demand for budgetary support as per the actual projected requirements at RE stage.

3. As regards new policy initiatives of Ministry of Coal during 2022, the Committee are glad to note that a new Sub-sector 'Production of Syn-Gas leading to coal gasification' has been created in 2022 under the Non-Regulated Sector (NRS) linkage auctions in order to encourage coal gasification technology. Further Government has recently approved a new mechanism for e-auction of coal by the coal companies. This single e-auction window will cater to all Sectors and to promote an optimum utilisation of coal resources in the national interest, the National Coal Distribution Policy (NCDP) has been amended on 11.04.2022 to allow production/ selling of coal from abandoned/discontinued mines and mines of CIL/ SCCL through a transparent and objective manner as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Coal from time to time.

While appreciating these new initiatives by the Ministry of Coal, whereby clean technologies and availability of coal will be made easier to the consumer, the Committee would like to be apprised of the achievement so far and the targets fixed for the year 2023-24.

## RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

4. The Committee observe that actual utilization for Centrally Sponsored (Research & Development) Scheme for 2022-23 against Revised Estimates of ₹8.35 crore, were ₹6.30 crore (upto 28.02.2023). Now, during 2023-24, the Ministry had proposed ₹ 21.00 crore for research activities, which has been approved by the Ministry of Finance. As regards physical performance is concerned, the Committee have been informed that during 2022-23, against the 11 ongoing projects, two are completed till 31.12.2022 and nine projects were approved by SSRC and thus 17 projects were ongoing as on 31st December, 2022.

While appreciating the ongoing R&D works in Coal Sector, where Projects for development of clean coal technologies, safety in coal mines and protection of ecology are identified and prioritized for implementation for a safe and secure clean energy future, the Committee are hopeful that the Ministry of Coal would optimally utilize the funds allocated during 2023-24 under the R & D Scheme.. The Committee also recommend that a robust mechanism be developed to review progress of Coal S&T projects.

## PROMOTIONAL (REGIONAL) EXPLORATION

5. The Committee note that the aim of the Promotional (Regional) Exploration for coal and lignite, a Central Sector Scheme of the Ministry of Coal is to undertake preliminary drilling to assess availability of coal in various areas and the same is being implemented by various agencies viz. Central Mine Planning and Institute Limited (CMPDI), Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL) and State Governments concerned. The Committee also observe that under the Scheme of Promotional Exploration, the budget outlay of ₹ 75 crore at BE stage for 2022-23 was increased to ₹ 130 crore at RE stage and actual utilization was ₹ 114.12 crore upto February, 2023 .

The Committee observe that with the increase outlays, the physical target of 0.40 lakh meter set during 2022-23 have been revised to 0.65 lakh meter. The Committee appreciate that 0.57 lakh meter of drilling has already been carried out upto January, 2023 and the Exploration target set during 2022-23 will be fully achieved. The Ministry have submitted that there will be 100 percent utilization of funds under the scheme, except NER component during 2022-23. The Committee stress that it is equally important to exploit untapped potential in North Eastern Region and, therefore, recommend that the Ministry of Coal should take necessary steps to ensure that the physical and financial targets of Scheme of Promotional Exploration for coal and lignite in North Eastern Region are achieved during 2023-24.



6. The Committee find that under Promotional (Regional) Exploration for Coal and Lignite Scheme, ₹ 250 crore has been allocated for the Financial Year 2023-24 which is ₹ 120 crore more than the RE 2022-23. The Ministry have stated that the outlay of ₹ 250 crore at BE 2023-24 is sufficient to achieve the proposed target of 2.00 lakh meter & 2D seismic survey in regional exploration. The Committee expect the Ministry to optimally and efficiently utilize the enhanced allocation and display exemplary focus on the implementation of the Scheme for optimal achievement of the physical and financial targets during 2023-24.

## **DETAILED DRILLING IN NON CIL BLOCKS**

7. The Committee note that Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited (CMPDI) carries out detailed exploration in CIL and Non-CIL blocks as per strict timelines, to bring resources falling in indicated and inferred category into the measured (proven) category. The Committee find that under the scheme 'Detailed Drilling in Non CIL Blocks', BE, 2022-23 of ₹ 175 crore has been increased to ₹ 300 crore at RE stage and actual expenditure (upto February, 2023) has been ₹ 255.05 crore. The Committee have been informed that funds will be fully utilized except NER component. These funds will be utilized to meet the projected achievement of 2022-23 as well as to clear the dues of ₹ 197 crore for the previous year.

The Committee are glad to note that funds for such an important Central Sector Scheme of Detailed Drilling in Non CIL Blocks were enhanced during 2022-23 at RE stage and are likely to be fully utilized. The Committee also find that an amount of ₹ 200 crore has been allocated for the financial year 2023-24 for the Scheme. Keeping in view the importance of the scheme, the Committee desire that earnest efforts be made by the Ministry to utilize funds allocated under Detailed Drilling in Non-CIL Blocks and if required, the Ministry of Coal may seek enhanced allocation at RE stage.

## CONSERVATION AND SEFETY IN COAL MINES

8. The Committee observe that under Conservation and Safety in Coal Mines Scheme, the aspect of conservation of coal is taken into account right from the planning stage and maximum recovery is ensured during the implementation stage. The Committee also observe that safety is always considered an utmost priority for coal companies. The Committee find that Budgetary allocation for the year 2022-23 was ₹ 4 crore and actual expenditure (upto February, 2023) stands at ₹ 3.60 crore.

The Committee are glad to note that during 2023-24, BE has been raised to ₹ 20 crore which is five times higher in comparison to BE 2022-23. The Ministry have informed the Committee that fund allocated during 2023-24 seems to be sufficient as there are approved projects amounting to ₹ 4.13 crore which CCDA Committee approved against the claims of different coal companies for completed works in previous years. Also, CCDA Sub-Committee has recommended claims amounting to ₹ 15.95 crore upto September, 2022 which is to be approved by CCDA Committee. The Committee would, therefore, like to be apprised of the action plan of the Government not only for full utilization of ₹ 20.00 crore during 2023-24 but also suitably enhancing the outlays at RE stage keeping in view the projections made by CCDA Sub-Committee.

## **DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE IN COALFIELDS AREAS**

9. The Committee note that Budgetary Provision under the Development of Transport Infrastructure in Coalfield Areas for the year 2022-23 was ₹ 50.00 crore and actual expenditure (upto February, 2023) has been ₹ 40.74 crore. The Committee also observe that for Development of Transportation Infrastructure in Coalfield Areas for the Financial Year 2023-24, ₹ 72 crore have been allocated. There are three major rail infrastructure projects being implemented on deposit basis and four Rail infrastructure projects being implemented by JV companies.

Keeping in view that financial assistance is provided to promote coal evacuation infrastructure in coalfield areas under the provision of Colliery Control (Amendment) Rules, 2021 by the Central Government for development of Roads and creation of Rail Infrastructure, the Committee desire the Ministry of Coal to ensure that funds earmarked under the Development of Transport Infrastructure in Coalfield Areas are fully utilized. The Committee also recommend the Ministry to make enhanced demand as per requirement at RE stage under the Development of Transport Infrastructure in Coalfield Areas for the year 2023-24.

## PHYSICAL PERFORMANCE OF COAL/LIGNITE PSUs

10. The Committee note that the physical targets set for coal/lignite production during 2023-24 by CIL ,SCCL and NLCIL are 780 Million Tonne, 70 Million Tonne and 26.50 Million Tonne respectively. The Committee find that during 2022-23 against the projected physical target of 700 MT, 70 MT of coal production by CIL and SCCL, the actual production (upto January, 2023) has been 550.92 MT and 54.10 MT respectively. The Committee note that production of 619.7 MTs till February, 2022-23 by CIL registered a strong 14.3% growth as compared to production of 542.4 MTs during the same period last year.

The Committee are glad to note the quantum gain in production of 77.3 MTs of Coal by CIL which will not only help in a major gain in breaching the production target of 700 MTs for the Financial Year 2022-23 but also that the Company will achieve a record making 80 MT output increase. The Committee appreciate this outstanding performances by CIL and hope that CIL would continue to achieve the desired production target to help reducing Coal Imports.

As regards NLCIL, against the lignite production target of 23 MT during 2022-23, the actual achievement upto February, 2023 has been 20.9 MT. During evidence held on 28.02.2023 CMD, NLCIL has assured the Committee that targets set for lignite production by NLCIL during 2022-23 will be fully achieved. The Committee also desire that the Company will take steps to ensure targeted coal and lignite production during 2023-24.

## UG PRODUCTION DRIVE

11. The Committee are happy to note that driven up by environmental concerns, CIL is focusing to unlock its trapped underground reserves. Further, as UG coal is superior in quality and reduces import burden for higher grades of coal, it is also minimally invasive on land avoiding its degradation and society friendly. The Committee have also been informed that CIL has introduced 25 Continuous Miners in 18 UG mines with total production capacity of 10.85 MTY and is planning for deployment of 41 more in 20 mines by March, 2026. Four Powered Support Long Wall (PSLW) equipment are also proposed to be installed by March, 2027. Progress is also reported to be on for reopening 30 discontinued mines having estimated mineable reserves of around 600 MTs.

The Committee believe that opening of trapped underground reserves of Coal production is a right step and it will not only help in meeting production of quality coal but will also reduce import of coal. While appreciating the Government initiative to mine out trapped Coal reserves, the Committee, recommend use of latest technologies that will boost quality coal production from UG mines.

## FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE OF COAL/LIGNITE PSUs

12. The Committee note that the Public Sector coal/lignite Companies plan their Capital Investment from Internal and Extra Budgetary Resources (IEBRs) only, without Budgetary Support from the Government. A Capex amount of ₹ 21030 crore (CIL-₹ 16500 crore + NLCIL- ₹ 2880 crore +SCCL- ₹1650 crore) has been proposed for the year 2023-24 for production of coal and related development of infrastructure. As regards the extent of implementation of the Capital Investment Plans against the allocations during the year 2022-23, the Committee find that against the Budget Estimates of ₹21420 crore for all the three Companies (CIL – ₹16500 crore, (BE&RE) NLCIL – ₹2920 crore (BE&RE) and SCCL – ₹2000 crore, (BE) (₹ 1600 crore RE), the actual expenditure upto January, 2023 has been ₹ 16433 crore (78.17%). The utilization of funds has been ₹13024 crore (79%) by CIL, ₹1803 crore (62%) by NLCIL and ₹1606 crore (100.4% ) by SCCL respectively. The Committee have been informed that CIL and NLCIL will fully utilise their CAPEX target for the year 2022-23.

The Committee are happy to note that CIL achieved an all-time record high consolidated profit after tax (PAT) of ₹ 22,597 Crores, in nine months till December, 2022, surpassing even the highest PAT that the company previously achieved for an entire financial year which was ₹ 17,464 Crores in 2018-19. The nine month period profit posted by CIL is a healthy 112% growth compared to profit of ₹ 10,663 Crores during the same period in Financial Year 2022. The Committee are happy to note that during 2022-23, CIL and NLCIL are expected to fully utilise their CAPEX target. The Committee while appreciating the excellent financial performance by CIL for the Financial Year 2022 also recommend the Company to take required steps to ensure similar performance in future.

## CREATING WEALTH FROM WASTE – OBR TO SAND

13. The Committee note that till February, 2023, CIL excavated 1486 million cubic metres (M.CuM) of Over Burden Removal, posting a strong 21% growth over same period last year and achieved 101.4% of progressive target. Backed by high growth, CIL is confident of achieving target of 1634 M.Cu.M during 2022-23. The incremental 272 M.CuM would be highest ever volume increase in a year. While over Burden Removal ensures future production of coal easier and faster, the Committee also observe that Manufactured Sand is made from 4 times the waste coming out of coal production.

As regards Manufactured Sand success and plans to start projects in subsidiaries of Coal India Limited, the Committee have been informed that CIL is manufacturing sand from overburden material. Four such projects, two in Western Coalfields Ltd. and one each in Eastern Coalfields Ltd and Northern Coalfields have cumulatively produced 2.37 Lakh Cubic metres of M-Sand till January, 2023 from over burden removal.

The Committee feel that this initiative by Ministry of Coal and CIL to make sand available for construction in eco-friendly manner is a very novel idea. While appreciating the Manufactured Sand project initiative being started in four CIL subsidiaries which have cumulatively produced 2.37 Lakh Cubic metres of sand from over burden removal, the Committee desire that such projects be started in all subsidiaries of Coal India Limited.



## EFFECTIVE UTILIZATION OF MINE WATER

14. The Committee note that coal/lignite PSUs, discharged 7,848 Lakh Kilo Litre mine water till March, 2022. Around 47 percent of the water is used by the nearby communities both for domestic and irrigation purpose in 871 villages {CIL (727 Villages), SCCL (104 Villages) and NLCIL (40 Villages)} and 16.18 Lakh population is benefited. The Committee are glad to note that mine water discharged from CIL's mines have benefitted 11.10 Lakh people in 837 villages in the proximity of CIL's mining areas for domestic and irrigation purpose during the year which is 110 more villages and 42,000 more populace benefitted as compared to entire Financial Year 2021-22. While appreciating effective utilization of mine water, the Committee hope that the Coal/Lignite PSUs will continue such good work in future as well.

## ECO RESTORATION BY ABONDONED MINES

15. The Committee observe that CIL's plantation in its mining areas soared almost double to present 1613 hectares from 862 hectares of Financial Year, 2021. CIL is converting its abandoned mines into eco-parks which have become popular as eco-tourism points. Taking note of 30 such eco-parks already developed, the Committee would like to be apprised of the Plans of CIL for creation of more such eco parks, by eco-restoration of abandoned mine sites.

## FIRST MILE CONNECTIVITY

16. The Committee find that Ministry of Coal have taken up 71 First Mile connectivity Projects for seamless evacuation of coal, 8 Projects (6-CIL & 2-SCCL) of 95.5 MTPA capacity have already been commissioned. As regards, the 44 First Mile Connectivity (FMC) projects of CIL for coal evacuation through Rail, the Committee note that these have been planned in two phases to strengthen coal evacuation facility.

The Committee note that First Mile Connectivity (FMC) will not only ensure timely delivery of coal but will also help in reducing pollution during transport of coal by road. Out of these, in Phase-I, 35 Projects are to be implemented by financial year 2023-24 with a capacity of 414.5 MTPA and another 9 Projects (under Phase-II) have been taken up which will cater to dispatch of around 57 MTPA of coal. Out of 35 FMC Projects of Phase-I, 6 Projects of 82 MTPA capacity have already been commissioned and 3 Projects of 30 MTPA are anticipated to be commissioned by March, 2023.

The Committee are glad to note that all the First Mile Connectivity (FMC) Projects of Phase - I are anticipated to be completed by Financial Year 2023-24 and out of 9 FMC Projects (Phase-II) of which 3 FMC Projects totaling to 14 MTPA are under construction and the remaining 6 Projects are under different stages of formulation and tendering.

The Committee also observe that projects of 300 MTPA capacity are under various stages of construction and are on schedule. The Committee are happy to note that the Ministry of Coal and Coal Companies are on a fast track to implement these projects and after implementation of FMC Phase-I and FMC Phase-II, Coal India Limited will increase the mechanized evacuation to 623 MTPA by Financial Year 2024-25.

The Committee are happy to note that Coal India Limited is spending ₹ 13000 to ₹ 14000 crore through its internal resources for these FMC Projects. While appreciating the initiatives taken by the Ministries of Coal and Railways, the Committee desire that both Phase I and Phase – II of this ambitious project should be implemented and completed in a time bound manner as targeted to fulfill the desired objectives.

## **INITIATIVES UNDER PM GATI SHAKTI**

17. The Committee note that the Ministry of Coal, in view of cleaner environment in coal transportation has given momentum in rail evacuation and also initiating new efforts to gradually move away from road movement of coal in country. According to the Ministry of Coal, planned construction of new broad gauge rail lines in Greenfield coal bearing areas, extending the rail links to newer loading points and doubling and tripling the rail lines in some cases will enhance rail capacity considerably. The Committee further observe that the Ministry of Coal has undertaken 13 Railway Projects to develop multimodal connectivity and identified missing infrastructure gaps for each projects. Four Railway projects are successfully mapped in the National Master Plan (NMP) portal under High Impact projects which will be developed in the States of Jharkhand and Odisha and will facilitate movement of coal with rapid logistics and wider connectivity for all the commercial miners. During 2022, Bhadrachalam Road-Sattupalli New BG rail Line and MCRL Phase-I, Angul-Balram Rail Link have been commissioned. While appreciating the initiatives taken by the Ministry of Coal under PM Gati Shakti, the Committee desire that the Ministry of Coal in coordination with the Ministry of Railways should fix a timeline for implementing these projects.

## ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THE MINISTRY

18. While appreciating the steps taken by the Ministry of Coal to enable accelerated coal production during the last few years, the Committee observe that the Ministry of Coal has achieved objectives like infrastructure development to augment coal and washed coal production, leveraging technology to minimize environmental externalities, cutting edge research and development initiative, enhancing exploration to augment resource base and attracting private investments. The Committee are hopeful that Coal India Ltd. will continue to make remarkable contribution in the coal sector. Further, Central Government schemes of the Government like Research and Development, Promotional Exploration, Detailed Drilling in non CIL Blocks, Conservation and Safety in Coal Mines and Development of Transport Infrastructure in Coalfield Areas will pave the way for Atmanirbhar Bharat in the coal sector. The Committee expect that with concerted efforts all physical and financial targets set by the Ministry will be achieved efficiently.

**NEW DELHI;**  
**15 March, 2023**  
**24 Phalguna, 1944 (Saka)**

**RAKESH SINGH**  
**Chairperson,**  
**Standing Committee on Coal,**  
**Mines and Steel**



**ANNEXURE - I**

**MINUTES OF THE FIFTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COAL, MINES AND STEEL (2022-2023) HELD ON TUESDAY, THE 28<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2023 IN COMMITTEE ROOM No. '2', BLOCK-A, FIRST FLOOR, PARLIAMENT HOUSE ANNEXE EXTENSION BUILDING, NEW DELHI.**

The Committee sat from 1100 hrs. to 1320 hrs.

**PRESENT**

**Shri Rakesh Singh- Chairperson**

**Lok Sabha**

2. Dr. Venkata Satyavathi Beesetti
3. Shri Kunar Hembram
4. Shri Chandra Prakash Joshi
5. Shri Chunni Lal Sahu
6. Shri Khan Saumitra
7. Shri Sunil Kumar Singh
8. Shri Sushil Kumar Singh
9. Shri Pashupati Nath Singh

**Rajya Sabha**

10. Shri Rwngrwa Narzary
11. Shri Deepak Prakash
12. Shri Aditya Prasad
13. Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy
14. Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav

**SECRETARIAT**

1. Shri J.M. Baisakh - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Arvind Sharma - Director
3. Smt. Savita Bhatia - Deputy Secretary

## WITNESSES

### MINISTRY OF COAL

1	Shri Amrit Lal Meena	Secretary
2	Shri Maddirala Nagaraju	Additional Secretary
3	Smt. Vismita Tej	Additional Secretary
4	Smt. Nirupama Kotru	Joint Secretary & Financial Advisor
5	Shri Bhabani Prasad Pati	Joint Secretary
6	Shri Sanjeev Kumar Kassi	Joint Secretary
7	Shri Anandji Prasad	Advisor (Project)
8	Shri Hara Kumar Hajong	Economic Advisor
9	Ms. Santosh	Deputy Director General
10	Shri Vijay Kumar Mishra	Commissioner, CMPFO

### COAL PSUs

11	Shri Pramod Agrawal	CMD, Coal India Ltd.
12	Shri Prasanna Kumar	CMD, NLCIL
13	Shri N. Sridhar	CMD, SCCL
14	Shri O.P. Singh	CMD, MCL
15	Shri Bhola Singh	CMD, NCL
16	Shri P S Mishra	CMD, SECL
17	Shri A P Panda	CMD, ECL
18	Shri Manoj Kumar	CMD CMPDIL
19	Shri Samiran Dutta	CMD, BCCL
20	Shri P.M. Prasad	CMD, CCL
21	Shri Manoj Kumar	CMD, WCL



2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Secretary and other representatives of the Ministry of Coal and its Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) to the sitting of the Committee convened to examine the Demands for Grants (2023-24). The Chairperson then drew their attention to Direction 55 of the Directions by the Speaker, Lok Sabha regarding confidentiality of the proceedings.

3. Thereafter, the Secretary, Ministry of Coal briefed the Committee about the Plan Outlays *vis-a-vis* actual utilization by the Ministry and the PSUs under its administrative control. In a visual presentation, the Committee were apprised about the financial and physical targets set and achieved by the Ministry of Coal and its PSUs during 2022-23 and the major thrust areas envisaged for the development of Coal Sector during 2023-24.

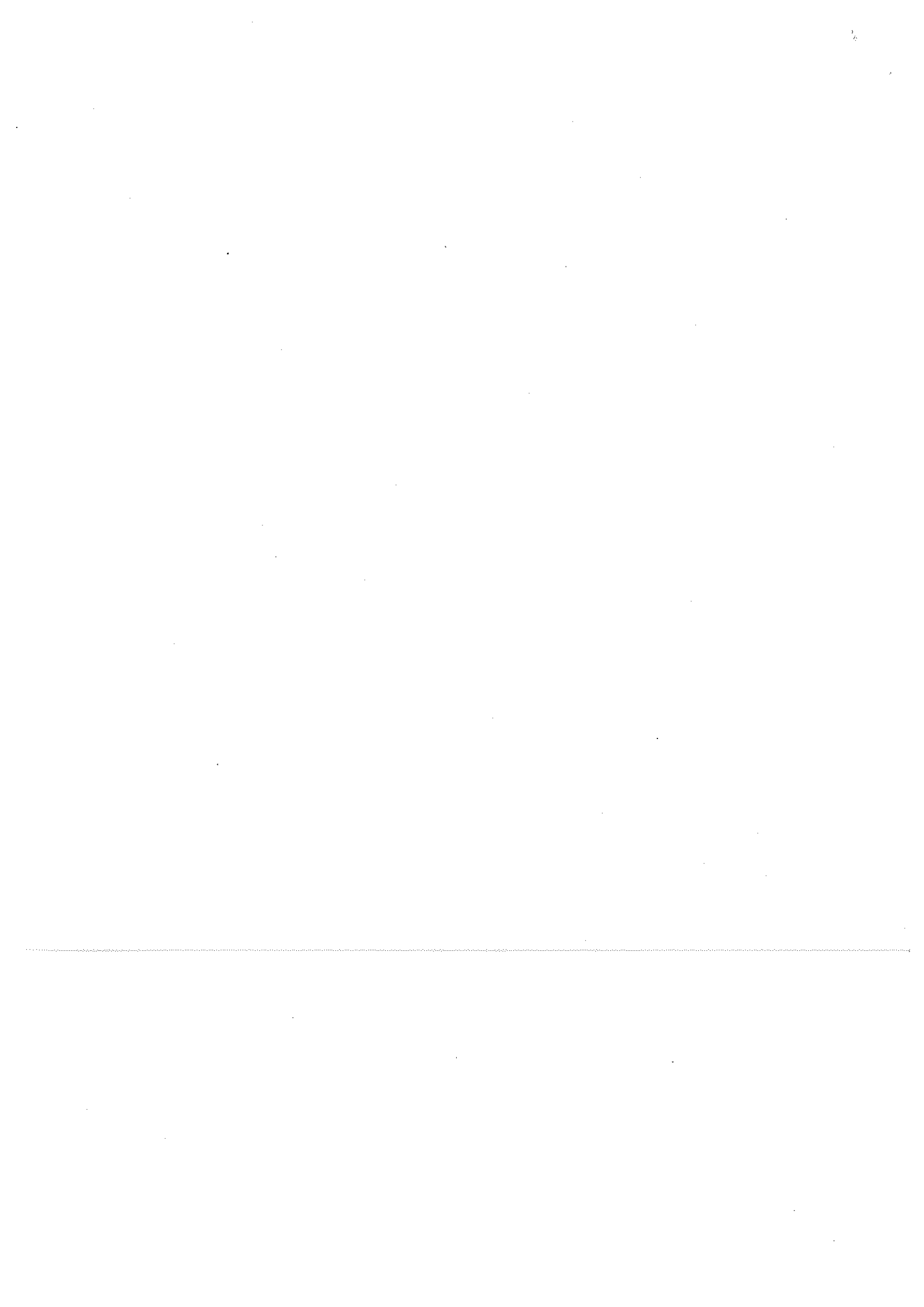
4. Thereafter, the Hon'ble Chairperson, sought clarifications on the issues like reasons for underutilization of funds in North Eastern Region, Research and Development Scheme, physical and financial performance of coal/lignite PSUs, status of Raniganj and Jharia Revised Master Plan, Action Plan for progress and success of First Mile Connectivity projects, etc. The members of the Committee also sought clarifications on issues like illegal coal mining, underutilization of funds, theft of coal, steps taken to reduce import of coal, monitoring mechanism to review ongoing coal/lignite projects, etc.

5. The representatives of the Ministry of Coal replied to queries of the Members. The Chairperson directed the representatives of the Ministry of Coal to furnish written replies to the queries raised by the Members which remained unanswered during the sitting of the Committee.

A copy of verbatim record of the sitting has been kept.

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*The Committee then adjourned.*



**ANNEXURE-II**

MINUTES OF THE SIXTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COAL, MINES AND STEEL (2022-2023) HELD ON 15.3.2023 FROM 1530 HRS. TO 1630 HRS. IN HON'BLE CHAIRPERSON'S CHAMBER, ROOM NO. '210', B-BLOCK, PHA EXTENSION BUILDING, NEW DELHI.

**PRESENT**

**Shri Rakesh Singh - Chairperson**

**Lok Sabha**

2. Dr. Venkata Satyavathi Beesetti
3. Shri Vijay Kumar Hansdak
4. Shri Kunar Hembram
5. Shri Chandra Prakash Joshi
6. Shri Ajay Nishad
7. Shri S. R. Parthiban
8. Smt. Riti Pathak
9. Shri Komati Reddy Venkat Reddy
10. Shri Sunil Kumar Singh
11. Shri Pashupati Nath Singh
12. Shri Ashok Kumar Yadav

**Rajya Sabha**

13. Shri Rwngrwa Narzary
14. Shri Samir Oraon
15. Shri Deepak Prakash
16. Shri Aditya Prasad
17. Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav

**SECRETARIAT**

1. Shri J.M. Baisakh - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Arvind Sharma - Director
3. Smt. Savita Bhatia - Deputy Secretary

2. At the outset, Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee.

3. The Committee, thereafter, considered and adopted the following draft reports with slight modifications:-

- (i) Draft Report on Demands for Grants (2023-24) relating to the Ministry of Coal;
- (ii) \*\*\*                      \*\*\*                      \*\*\*                      \*\*\*;
- (iii) \*\*\*                      \*\*\*                      \*\*\*                      \*\*\*

4. The Committee then authorized the Chairperson to finalise the Reports in the light of the factual verification received from the concerned Ministries and present/lay the same in both the Houses of Parliament.

5. \*\*\*                   \*\*\*                   \*\*\*                   \*\*\*

*The Committee, then, adjourned.*

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**\*Not related to the Report.**