

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2342
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2004
ASSISTANCE TO NORTH EASTERN COAL FIELD
Sonowal Shri Sarbananda

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has granted special financial assistance to North Eastern Coal Field vis-à-vis Margherita Coal Field to improve the production and selling of Coal ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ; (
- (c) whether the Government has ever granted money during the last three years for the socio-economic / area development in the Coal Field areas of Assam and other North East States ; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE COAL AND MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO)

(a) Yes Sir.

(b). The Government had granted Rs. 55.14 crores during 2000- 2001 to Coal India Limited for covering up the losses to the extent of cash loss suffered by North Eastern Coalfields during Financial year 1999-2000.

The Government granted Rs. 28.65 crores in the year 2001-02 to Coal India Limited for the following heads of expenditure in North Eastern Coalfields.

(Rs. in crore)

i)	R&D of NE Region	1.33
ii).	Regional exploration in NE Region	3.58
iii)	Detail drilling in NE Region	4.15
iv).	Rehabilitation, control of fire and subsidence	0.80
v).	Environment measures and subsidence control	1.35
vi).	VRS	17.44

Total:- 28.65

From 2002-2003 onwards, 10% of the Gross Budgetary Support given by the Department of Coal is being transferred to the Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources for North Eastern Region created for development of the North Eastern states.

(c) No, Sir. However Coal India had incurred amount of Rs. 37.92 Lakhs in year 2001-02, Rs.41.79 Lakhs in year 2002-03 and Rs.36.09 Lakhs in year 2003-04 for community development, grants to school and institutions and for environmental expenditure (tree plantation) in operational areas of North Eastern Coalfields.

(d) In view of reply to part (c) above, the question does not arise.