

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2362  
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2004  
DEATH OF WORKERS IN VANIADIH PROJECTS  
Singh Shri Mohan

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

- (a) whether the government is aware that more than 300 miners were killed in the land subsidence in the Vaniadih project of the Central Coalfields Limited in May, 2004;
- (b) if so, whether this incident occurred due to illegal mining or some other reasons;
- (c) whether such illegal mining operations are undertaken in connivance with officers and employees of the CCL; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to check this?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL AND MINES (Dr. DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

- (a) As per the information available and FIR lodged by the Police, four persons were reported to have been killed in an incident at Baniadih colliery, Giridih on 28th May, 2004
- (b) Evidence shows that the subsidence occurred due to illegal mining below ground.
- (c) There is no evidence to suggest that any official/employee of Central Coalfields Limited is involved in such illegal mining.
- (d) The following actions are taken by Central Coalfields Limited management to check illegal mining;
  - (i) frequent inspection by Colliery Security staff
  - (ii) lodging of FIRs regularly
  - (iii) dozing such areas by HEMM wherever possible
  - (iv) making visible publicity by hoardings/public notices at public places and through local newspapers
  - (v) regular liaison with the State Police
  - (vi) patrolling of areas by internal security agencies and also jointly with the State Police.