

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4078
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2014
INCREASE IN PRICE OF COAL
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Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Coal India Limited (CIL) has decided to increase the price of coal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reason therefor;
- (c) its impact on the prices of essential commodities and the rate of inflation and the steps being taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) the efforts made by the Government to stop illegal mining of coal in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL, POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a & b): After complete decontrol of coal prices w.e.f. 01.01.2000, Coal India Limited (CIL) fixes the prices of raw coking and non-coking coal produced by CIL and its subsidiary companies from time to time. The Coal companies fix the coal price based on input costs, inflation index, market trends, etc.

(c) : Coal produced domestically goes substantially towards generating power and to a limited extent in the manufacture of steel, cement, fertilizer and other products. Keeping in view the critical role played by coal as fuel, the effort of the Government is to facilitate increase in production of coal to the maximum extent feasible, so that there is adequate availability of energy for economic growth.

(d) : The following steps are being taken by the Government to prevent illegal mining:

- a) Rat holes created by illegal mining are being dozed off and filled up with stone and debris wherever possible. Concrete walls have been erected on the mouth of the abandoned mines to prevent access and illegal activities in these areas.
- b) Regular raids/ checks being conducted by security personnel and static security pickets including armed guards during the night hours are being deployed at pithead depots.
- c) Surprise raids/checks being conducted jointly by security personnel and law and order authorities of the concerned State Government.
- d) Fencing is being constructed at the various illegal mining sites along with displaying of signboards mentioning "dangerous and Prohibited Place".
- e) Collection of intelligence reports about illegal coal depots and illegal movement of coal and informing district authorities of the same for taking preventive actions.
- f) Installation of check-posts at vulnerable points to check transport documents.
- g) Training of existing security personnel, refresher training of CISF personnel and basic training of new recruits in security discipline for strengthening the security setup.
- h) The coal companies are maintaining close liaison with the State authorities.
- i) Committees/ task forces have been constituted at different levels (block level, sub-divisional level, district level, state level) at some subsidiaries of CIL to monitor different aspects of illegal mining.