

**TWENTY-NINTH REPORT
COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS**

(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF COAL

(Presented to Lok Sabha on 28.03.2022)



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

March, 2022

CPB No. 1 Vol. XXIX

© 2022 BY LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

Published under Rule 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha (Sixteenth Edition).

CONTENTS

	PAGE
COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS	(ii)
INTRODUCTION.....	(iii)

REPORT

Action taken by the Government on the recommendations made by the Committee on Petitions (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) in their Sixteenth Report on the representation of Shri Dharambir Singh regarding dilapidated condition of Coal Mines in West Bengal and Jharkhand and other related issues.	1
---	---

APPENDICES

(i) Forms A, B, C under the Workmen's Compensation Rules, 1924	33
(ii) Part-II, 'Deposits of Compensation' under Workmen's Compensation Rules, 1924	35

ANNEXURE

Minutes of the 19th sitting of the Committee on Petitions held on 22.12.2021. *(Not enclosed)*

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

Shri Harish Dwivedi - *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Anto Antony
3. Shri Hanuman Beniwal
4. Dr. Sukanta Majumdar
5. Shri Sanjay Sadashivrao Mandlik
6. Shri P. Ravindhranath
7. Shri Brijendra Singh
8. Shri Sushil Kumar Singh
9. Shri Manoj Tiwari
10. Shri Prabhubhai Nagarbhai Vasava
11. Shri Rajan Vichare
12. Vacant
13. Vacant
14. Vacant
15. Vacant

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri T.G. Chandrasekhar - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Raju Srivastava - Director
3. Shri G. C. Dobhal - Additional Director
4. Shri Anand Kumar Hansda - Assistant Executive Officer

**TWENTY-NINTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS
(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)**

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Committee on Petitions, having been authorised by the Committee, present on their behalf this Twenty-Ninth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee to the House on the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations made by the Committee on Petitions (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) in their Sixteenth Report on the representation of Shri Dharambir Singh regarding dilapidated condition of Coal Mines in West Bengal and Jharkhand and other related issues.

2. The Committee considered and adopted the draft Twenty-Ninth Report at their sitting held on 22 December, 2021.

3. The observations/recommendations of the Committee on the above matters have been included in the Report.

NEW DELHI;

**HARISH DWIVEDI,
Chairperson,
Committee on Petitions.**

22 December, 2021

1 Pausha, 1943 (Saka)

REPORT

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS (SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA) IN THEIR SIXTEENTH REPORT ON THE REPRESENTATION RECEIVED FROM SHRI DHRAMABIR SINGH REGARDING DILAPIDATED CONDITION OF COAL MINES IN WEST BENGAL AND JHARKHAND AND OTHER RELATED ISSUES.

The Committee on Petitions (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) presented their Sixteenth Report to Lok Sabha on 12 February, 2021 which had dealt with the representation received from Shri Dharambir Singh regarding dilapidated condition of Coal Mines in West Bengal and Jharkhand and other related issues.

2. The Committee had made certain observations/recommendations in the matter and the Ministry of Coal were asked to implement the recommendations and requested to furnish their action taken notes thereon for further consideration of the Committee.

3. Action Taken Notes have since been received from the Ministry of Coal in respect of all the observations/recommendations contained in the aforesaid Report. The recommendations made by the Committee and the replies furnished thereto by the Ministry of Coal are detailed in the succeeding paragraphs.

4. In paras 21 to 23 of the Report, the Committee had observed/recommended as follows:-

"Allocation of Coal Blocks as per provisions of the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015.

The Committee note from the submissions made by the Ministry of Coal that as on 1.4.2019, the number of active Coal Mines (producing mines) under the Coal India Limited in West Bengal is 66 [Eastern Coalfields Limited

(ECL):65 and Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL):1] and in Jharkhand, it is 95 [ECL:14, BCCL:37 and Central Coalfields Limited (CCL):44].

The Committee further note that subsequent to the cancellation of coal block allocations by the Supreme Court in the year 2014, Coal Mines are being allocated by the Ministry of Coal through auction or allotment as per provisions of the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015. Presently, the Ministry conducts auction of coal blocks through e-auction mode on an electronic platform created by the MSTC Limited and no physical or financial bids are being accepted or considered. The Committee also note that ten tranches of auction of Coal Mines have been concluded, wherein, a total of 35 Coal Mines have been allocated to Private and Government Companies through auction and a total of 63 Coal Mines have been allocated to Government Companies through allotment, under the CMSP Act, 2015. In this context, the Committee further note that the number of Coal Mines in West Bengal and Jharkhand auctioned as per the CMSP Act, 2015 is 4 and 10 respectively and the total revenue generated therefrom, till September, 2020, amounts to Rs. 1429.69 crore (excluding royalty, taxes and cess).

Notwithstanding the fact that since 2014, only 35 Coal Mines have been allocated to Private and Government Companies through auction, the Committee appreciate that the Government have introduced a new auction methodology in the form of e-auction on an electronic platform to increase transparency in bidding and auction process in respect of Coal Mines sector and to open it up for competition. In this backdrop, the Committee appreciate that after 2014, various new initiatives have been taken by the Government to introduce the desired level of transparency in coal block allocation. The use of digital technology in this process has further added an element of lesser human intervention which is a welcome step on the part of the Ministry of Coal. The Committee, therefore, desire that the momentum in regard to e-auctioning should be invariably maintained by the Ministry of Coal and all the Public Sector Coal Companies should be further encouraged to introduce digital technology in all their commercial activities. The Public Sector Coal Companies should also furnish the details of various commercial activities in which digital technologies are now being introduced by them to encourage transparency and minimizing human intervention."

5. The Ministry of Coal, in their action taken replies, have submitted as under:-

"Use of digital technology is a continuous process and all the Coal Companies have been directed to encourage the introduction of technologies in all their commercial activities. Digital technologies in various commercial activities are being adopted for maintaining transparency and minimizing human intervention. Some of the initiatives already in place are:-

- *Implementation of Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) whereby Phase-1 has gone live covering Coal India Limited (CIL), Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) and Western Coalfield Limited (WCL). Rest of the subsidiaries will go live in Phase-II within this year.*
- *Digitalization as per Industry 4.0 practices for 7 big mines has been undertaken. The technology will be replicated in other mines as well, subsequently.*
- *Creation of several portals for management to take informed decisions and for consumer satisfaction. Web Applications for Production Information System, Safety Information System, CIL-CSR, Human Resource Management System (HRMS), Coal Consumer Reconciliation Portal, Quality Monitoring Portal are few of the major ones.*
- *As a significant contribution towards "Digital Green India", E-office solution from NIC has been implemented in CIL and its subsidiaries to augment paperless office.*
- *Under the project "DMS", CIL has digitized more than 80 lakhs documents at its Corporate Headquarters.*
- *Procurement of Goods, Works and Services in Coal India and its subsidiary companies is being done through e-Procurement mode. Tenders are finalised through e-Tender mode with provision of reverse auction in Coal India to ensure greater transparency and better cost effectiveness during tender procedures in goods, works and services.*

- e-Auction of coal is operational through service providers of CIL.
- Performance Evaluation, Vigilance Information and Annual Property Return of executives in Coal India is carried out through web enabled systems."

6. In paras 24 to 29 of the Report, the Committee had observed/recommended as follows:-

"Statutory provisions relating to safety, health and welfare of persons employed in the Coal Mines.

The Committee note that there have been various provisions relating to safety, health and welfare of persons employed in the Coal Mines as prescribed in the Mines Act, 1952, the Mines Rules, 1955 and the Coal Mines Regulations (CMR), 2017. However, there is no such clause or section in the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 and the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Rules, 2014. In this regard, the Committee also note that as per the Coal Mines Development and Production Agreement signed between the Nominated Authority and the Successful Bidder of the Private Allottees, there is a Section, vis., Section 11.4 which relates to health, safety, welfare, social security and minimum wages of employees engaged at the Coal Mines, wherein, the compliance of all applicable laws and good industry practices, modern safety devices and modern safety precautions by the Successful Bidder have been emphasised.

The Committee also note that the Law Enforcing Agency/Regulatory Authority under the Mines Act, 1952, i.e., the Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS), which comes under the Ministry of Labour and Employment, has the following responsibilities and powers:-

- a) Inspection of mine;
- b) Enquiry into mine accident and dangerous occurrence;
- c) Grant Work Permissions, Exemptions and Relaxations;
- d) Conduct of Examinations and Award of Statutory Certificates of Competency;

- e) Issuance of Circulars;
- f) Approval of certain type of equipment, machinery, tools and material used in the mines;
- g) Organising National Conference on Safety in Mines; and
- h) Holding Rescue Competitions, etc., and National Safety Awards (Mines).

The Committee note that the DGMS inspects mines of all subsidiary companies of the Coal India Limited (CIL) to assess whether the mines are being operated as per the provisions contained in the Mines Act, 1952, the Mines Rules, 1955 and the Coal Mines Regulations, 2017 and by-laws and orders framed under the Act *ibid*. In this connection, the Committee further note that all statutes related to mines safety are equally applicable to all the Coal Mines in the country irrespective of their nature of ownership and the DGMS has the powers and responsibilities for enforcing various Rules and Regulations in respect of Private Coal Companies in the States of West Bengal and Jharkhand.

Though, the provisions and clauses relating to safety, health and welfare of persons employed in the Coal Mines have been prescribed in the Mines Act, 1952, the Mines Rules, 1955, the Coal Mines Regulations (CMR), 2017 and in the Coal Mines Development and Production Agreement signed between Nominated Authority and Successful Bidder of the Private Allottees, the Committee are not sure about the reasons for non-existence of such explicit provision, clause or section in the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 and the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Rules, 2014. Keeping in mind the ever changing situation in a coal mine and geographical considerations thereon, the Committee could understand that any law related to the Coal Mines ought not to be rigid or fixed. Instead, these codes should be made flexible enough to take into account various variable factors and/or unforeseen circumstances without compromising the efficacy and their overall financial viability. However, in the considered opinion of the Committee, the aspects relating to safety, health and welfare of persons employed in the Coal Mines cannot be relegated to a secondary position and hence, these aspects should also be taken care of through appropriate legislative processes. The Committee, therefore, desire that a pragmatic

safety management system, thereby plugging all the loopholes, should be put in place at the right earnest. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 and the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Rules, 2014 should be amended accordingly, so as to include safety, health and welfare provisions. The Committee would like to be apprised of the necessary steps taken in this regard.

While acknowledging the fact that all Statutes related to mines safety are equally applicable to all the Coal Mines in the country, irrespective of their nature of ownership and the DGMS has powers and responsibilities for enforcing various Rules and Regulations in respect of Private Coal Companies, the Committee would also like to impress upon the Ministry of Coal to ensure that there is no inconsistency in the application of mines safety Statutes in the case of Public Sector Undertakings vis-a-vis the Private Coal Companies and in case any violation is noticed at any stage of their operations, responsibility could be fixed and appropriate action, in accordance with law, initiated against the officer(s) responsible or proprietor(s) in a uniform manner.

The Committee are also given to understand that the Nodal Agency for ensuring mines safety is the DGMS which comes under the Ministry of Labour and Employment. However, the Coal Mines, being one of the major constituents in the Mining Sector, the Ministry of Coal should take the proactive role in ensuring proper coordination with the DGMS for Coal Mines Safety related issues in order to implement all the safety measures and achieve the intended common objectives. Though the DGMS have been entrusted with the responsibility of mines safety in various forms, vis., organising National Conference on Safety in Mines, holding Rescue Competitions, awarding National Safety Awards (Mines), etc., the Committee hope that the Ministry of Coal, in coordination with the DGMS, would take the initiative of organising Seminars, Workshops, etc., on Mines Safety, regularly at the Headquarters and Regional Offices of the subsidiaries of CIL and other Public Sector Undertakings. The Committee would like to be apprised of the necessary steps/proposed to be taken in this regard.

7. The Ministry of Coal, in their action taken replies, have submitted as under:-

"As of now, safety in all mines including coal mines, is in the statutory and administrative domain of Labour Ministry which administers the laws through its Directorate General of Mines Safety. Proposal for amendment in the CMSP Act, 2015 and CMPS Rules, 2014 for incorporating safety, health and welfare provisions is under active consideration of this Ministry. The above exercise will be undertaken by consulting the Labour Ministry and other related Ministries.

All Statutes related to mines safety are followed in all (public and private) mines. In case of any violation, suitable action as deemed fit is initiated and all coal companies have been directed to take necessary action in this regard. Further, Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) under the Ministry of Labor and Employment has been made responsible for ensuring that there is no inconsistency in the application of mines safety Statutes in the case of Public Sector Undertakings vis-a-vis the Private Coal Companies and in case any violation is noticed at any stage of their operations, responsibility could be fixed and appropriate action, in accordance with law, initiated against the officer(s) responsible or proprietor(s) in a uniform manner.

Every year, DGMS organise several Workshops, Seminars etc., on various aspects of mines safety, in which employees of subsidiaries of CIL and other Public Sector Undertakings participate. Apart from the above, several Workshops, Seminars, etc., on Mine Safety are also organised in coordination with the DGMS by subsidiaries of CIL and other Public Sector Undertakings themselves. Further, as per recommendation of the Committee, more Workshops, Seminars, etc., will be organised at Subsidiary Headquarter level as well as Area level on Mines Safety in coordination with the DGMS for enhancing safety awareness level amongst employees. Ministry of Coal has also constituted an Expert Committee on safety with a view to ensure adoption of international best practices in safety and overall improvement in safe practices."

8. In para 30 of the Report, the Committee had observed/recommended as follows:-

"Compensation for mine accidents

"The Committee take note of the fact that the total number of cases of compensation being dealt with by the subsidiary companies of CIL is 213 and total amount of compensation paid to the dependent of the deceased mine employees as per the Employee Compensation Act, 1923 (Principal Act amended up to 2017) is Rs. 1,438.1 lakh between 2015-2019. In this context, the Committee are happy to note that an additional ex-gratia is provided to the dependent of deceased workers (including Contractor's worker) which has been revised to Rs. 15 lakh, w.e.f. 7.11.2019. However, the Committee thrust upon the Ministry of Coal to ensure strict compliance of all the provisions in respect of the compensation in case of mine accidents (fatalities) by the subsidiaries of CIL including other Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry and their Joint Venture Companies or the Private Coal Companies as per the relevant Rules/Laws/Policies/Schemes. The Committee hope that all the pending cases of compensation are being disposed of by the Coal Companies at the earliest and the compensation, in monetary terms, are also being paid to the dependents through electronic mode. The Committee would like to be apprised of the total compensation paid to the dependents during the last one year, through electronic mode."

9. The Ministry of Coal, in their action taken replies, have submitted as under:-

"As per Section 8 (1) of 'the Employee's Compensation Act (ECA), 1923 (Principal Act), no payment of compensation in respect of a workman whose injury has resulted in death, and no payment of a lump sum as compensation to a woman or a person under a legal disability, shall be made otherwise than by deposit with the Commissioner and no such payment directly by an employer shall be deemed to be a payment of compensation"

Accordingly, CIL and its subsidiaries deposit the calculated compensation amount to the duly appointed Commissioner as per ECA, 1923 (Principal Act) along with duly filled Form-A and the Commissioner issue a receipt in Form-B. Thereafter, the Commissioner disburses the compensation, the said amount to the dependent of the deceased employee after necessary

verification and issue the Statement of Disbursements under Form-C given in 'the Workmen's Compensation Rules, 1924' framed under the Principal Act. Appropriate action is initiated by the Commissioner appointed under Section-20 of the ECA, 1923 (Principal Act) for any violation of provision under the Act and Rules framed thereunder.

As on date, the mode of deposit of the compensation amount to the Commissioner as per the ECA, 1923 is 'Demand Draft' for convenience of issuance of 'Receipt for Compensation' under Form-B. However, CIL and its subsidiaries will comply any amendment whatsoever made in respect of the ECA-1923 (Principal Act) by the Government for easing the process of payment.

Total compensation amount paid by the subsidiaries of CIL as per the Employee Compensation Act (ECA), 1923 (Principal Act) is Rs 3,01,61,016/-. Further, additional ex-gratia is also provided to the dependent of deceased workers (including Contractor's workers). The amount of special ex-gratia has been revised to Rs. 15 Lakhs w.e.f. 07.11.2019."

10. In paras 31 to 39 of the Report, the Committee had observed/recommended as follows:-

"Implementation status of Jharia and Raniganj Master Plan.

The Committee note that due to unscientific mining in the past, Jharia Coalfield located in the Dhanbad District of Jharkhand has been facing the problems of fire, land subsidence resulting in the need for rehabilitation of affected persons. Therefore, in order to address the problems of fire and land subsidence in Jharia Coalfield, the Master Plan for dealing with fire, subsidence and rehabilitation in the leasehold of Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) and Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) was approved on 12 August, 2009 by the Government of India with an estimated investment of Rs. 7,112.11 crore for Jharia Coalfields (Jharkhand) and Rs. 2,661.73 crore for Raniganj Coalfields (West Bengal), for which implementation period have been delineated as 10 years for Raniganj Coalfields (RCF) and 10+2 years

for Jharia Coalfields (JCF). The Committee note that the basic objectives of the Jharia and Raniganj Master Plan are as under:-

- (i) Dealing with fire;
- (ii) Rehabilitation and resettlement of BCCL & ECL employees.
- (iii) Non BCCL & Non ECL (Authorised/Private & Unauthorised/Encroachers) people and others living in the endangered areas; and
- (iv) Surveying & Planning for diversion of railway/major roads/utility from unstable sites.

The Committee further note that the major heads of expenditure towards implementation of the Jharia and Raniganj Master Plan include the cost towards demographic survey, land acquisition cost, compensation cost for homestead land that the displaced house owner is holding, income generation cost, land development, infrastructure amenities cost, diversion of rail road for RCF as well as surveying and planning cost for diversion of rail and road, etc., for JCF and cost towards dealing with fire, contingencies and supervision, etc., for RCF. The Committee also note that a High Powered Central Committee (HPCC) has been constituted under the chairmanship of the Secretary (Coal) with the representatives of State Governments of Jharkhand and West Bengal, Asansol Durgapur Development Authority (ADDA), Jharia Rehabilitation and Development Authority (JRDA), Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Limited (CMPDIL), CIL, ECL, BCCL and the Ministry of Coal to review the activities of implementation of the Master Plan and so far, twenty one HPCC meetings have been conducted.

As regards funding arrangement for joint implementation of the Jharia and Raniganj Master Plan, the Committee take note of the fact that the CIL would contribute Rs. 350 crore per annum from their internal resources and the balance to be provided from the collections of Stowing Excise Duty (SED) under Coal Mines (Conservation and Development) Act, 1974 over a period of 10 years. The Committee also note that after approval of the JCF and RCF Master Plan, out of the indicated amount of Rs. 4,200 crore to be

contributed by the CIL for its joint implementation, CIL have infused around Rs. 1,961.14 crore, till February, 2020.

The Committee observe that under the Jharia and Raniganj Master Plan, Coal Companies are responsible for dealing and quenching of fire and shifting of their employees and State Governments of West Bengal and Jharkhand have been entrusted with rehabilitation of local population.

The Committee also recognise the fact that the BCCL, during the period of nationalization in 1971-73, surface fire area was to the extent of 17.32 sq. km which has now been reduced to 8.9 sq. km. as per a study of the World Bank. As per the National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) study of 2014, the fire area decreased to 2.18 sq. km. and then increased to 3.28 sq. km. as per the NRSC study of 2018, primarily, due to opening of more underground fire areas for excavation. However, a fresh survey is proposed for 2020-21. As per the averments of the Ministry of Coal, digging out fire is the ultimate and proven method all over the World to extinguish coal mine fires. Out of 34 locations identified by the BCCL for this purpose, fire has been quenched at two sites, work is continuing at eight sites and tenders have already been floated/planned for the remaining sites, whereas, under the ECL, all seven fire sites covering an area of 7.55 sq. km. have already been quenched.

The Committee observe that under Jharia and Raniganj Master Plan, the coal companies, vis., the BCCL and the CCL have been entrusted with the responsibility for rehabilitation and resettlement of the BCCL/CCL people/employees from the endangered area. The BCCL have constructed 7,714 houses, wherein, 4,057 families have been shifted and remaining 8,138 houses would be completed by August, 2021, whereas, all the affected ECL employees' families have already been shifted.

The Committee further observe that as per the said Plan, the State Governments of West Bengal and Jharkhand have been entrusted with the responsibility for rehabilitation and resettlement of the local population who are not BCCL/CCL people/employees and mainly unauthorised encroachers. In the State of Jharkhand, about 1,04,964 families, including Legal Title Holders (LTH) and Non-Legal Title Holders (NLTH) have been

reportedly affected, as per the present survey and analysis. The Jharia Rehabilitation and Development Authority (JRDA) has taken up construction of 18,352 houses, out of which 6,352 have already been completed and 3,114 families have been shifted, till date. The State Government of Jharkhand is planning to revise the compensation for accommodating the increased number of encroachers. In the State of West Bengal, 6,101 LTH and 22,899 Non-LTH have been identified for rehabilitation and resettlement. For the purpose, DPR for 12,976 flats have been prepared by the Housing Department and 8,816 are under construction. However, 43.68 ha. land is yet to be identified and acquired by the State Government of West Bengal for the purpose.

The Committee note that the Coal India Limited subsidiary companies, i.e., the ECL and the BCCL have Coal Mines in the States of West Bengal and Jharkhand whereas, another subsidiary company, i.e., CCL has mines in the State of Jharkhand. Both the ECL and the BCCL have a legacy of very old pre-nationalized mines and possess a host of problems like fire, water logged galleries, geological disturbances, subsidence, old developed galleries, etc.

While appreciating the resolute efforts of the BCCL and the ECL in regard to implementing the Jharia and Raniganj Master Plan, primarily formulated to address the problems of fire, land subsidence and for the rehabilitation and resettlement of the affected persons due to Coal Mines project, the Committee trust that the Ministry of Coal would give an added impetus for ensuring a structured coordination with the State Governments of West Bengal and Jharkhand and other stakeholders in order to expedite the implementation of the Jharia and Raniganj Master Plan in a seamless manner. The Committee are, however, dissatisfied to note that though the delineated time period for the implementation of the Master Plan have already been exceeded in the case of Raniganj Coalfields (RCF) which was 10 years, and in case of Jharia Coalfields (JCF) wherein it was 10+2 years, the target time limit is almost approaching, CIL have infused only an amount of Rs. 1,961.14 crore till February, 2020, which is only half of the indicated contribution of Rs. 4,200 crore for joint implementation of the Master Plan. The Committee are of the view that shortage of funds should not come in

the way of implementation of such an important Plan. The Committee, therefore, recommend to the Ministry of Coal to persuade CIL to contribute the remaining amount towards the implementation of the Jharia and Raniganj Master Plan. The Committee further recommend the Ministry of Coal to render all possible assistance to the State Governments concerned to find out implementable solutions for rehabilitation and resettlement issues in respect of the private and unauthorised persons affected due to Coal Mines project in order to ensure faster and time bound implementation of the Master Plan."

11. The Ministry of Coal, in their action taken replies, have submitted as under:-

"(A) Necessary steps taken in Jharia Master Plan:

1. Fire control:

BCCL have adopted the method of digging out fire through excavation and winning of coal and parallel mitigating the fire hazard. As a result of these efforts, the fire area decreased to 2.18 sq. kms. as per the National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) Study of 2014. As per NRSC Study, it has increased to 3.28 sq. kms. in 2018. mainly due to opening of more UG fire areas for excavation and quenching.

Summary of progress in fire dealing is as under:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>1972-73</i>	<i>1996</i>	<i>2014</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>2020 (Interim Report)</i>
<i>Fire Area (Sq. Km)</i>	<i>17.32</i>	<i>8.9</i>	<i>2.18</i>	<i>3.26</i>	<i>Fire area to be assessed</i>
<i>No. of fire Sites</i>	<i>77</i>	<i>67</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>27</i>

Out of these 27 patches, 15 sites are economically viable, as assessed by the Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Limited (CMPDIL), wherein work for 13 sites have been awarded and implementation started. In balance 2 sites, work will be awarded by mid-March, 2021. Completion time for digging out fire at these sites ranges from 2 years to 9 years as estimated by the CMPDIL.

The process of digging out the fire at remaining 12 sites is found to be economically unviable as assessed by the CMPDIL. In 5 sites, estimates have been finalised and for balance 7 sites, estimate is under preparation by the CMPDIL. In 3 sites, out of the 7, action will be taken after diversion of DB road and shifting of MADA Colony. BCCL has submitted tentative alignment for shifting of DB road and MADA colony and water reservoir. During a meeting held at DC Office, on 06.10.2020, BCCL has submitted tentative alignment for shifting of DB road.

Total tentative investment required in digging out these 12 sites is approximately Rs. 22,050 crore and after offsetting the coal sale value, i.e., Rs. 7,050 crore, approximately Rs. 15,000 crore will be required, for which source of funding needs to be worked out. Completion time for digging out fire at these sites ranges from 6 years to 13 years as estimated by the CMPDI.

2. Re-settlement & Re-habilitation:

Rehabilitation of BCCL families is being undertaken by the BCCL. Construction of 15,852 houses has been taken up for shifting of BCCL families. Till February, 2021, 7,714 houses have already been constructed by the BCCL and 4,185 families have been shifted.

Due to superannuation of BCCL employees (since 2009 till date), for resettlement and rehabilitation of BCCL employees, only 7,852 houses are required and the balance 8,000 houses have been handed over to JRDA, after the approval of JRDA Board dated 07.11.2020 and the BCCL Board dated 07.01.2021.

Construction of 18,352 houses for non-BCCL families has been taken up by JRDA in Belgoria Rehabilitation Township "Jharia Vihar". Till February, 2021, 6,352 houses have already been completed, in which 2,537 families have been shifted. Balance 12,000 houses are under different stages of construction.

(B) *Raniganj Master Plan - Rehabilitation status of ECL & Non-ECL families:*

There are three locations namely Jote Janki, Amritnagar and Ratibati 3,4 & 7 pits, where houses of ECL comes under fire affected area as per the Master Plan. ECL has already shifted all of its employees to existing ECL quarters at stable locations and demolished all the structures, which were within the fire effected subsided sone.

As per the approved Master Plan, Asansol Durgapur Development Authority (ADDA) has been identified as implementing agency on the behalf of Government of West Bengal for rehabilitation of Non-ECL families.

Construction of 12,976 flats for shifting Non-ECL families have been taken up by the ADDA at four identified resettlement sites i.e., at Bijohnagar, Daskeary, Dakshinkhanda and Namokeshia. At present, construction of 3,584 flats has already been completed and 6,336 flats are in different stages of construction at resettlement sites for shifting of non-ECL families.

(C) *Fund Released and Utilised against Master Plan:*

After approval of the Master Plan, total fund released by the CIL is Rs. 2,160 crore (till February, 2021) for implementation of both the Master Plans. Total fund released to BCCL is Rs. 1,577.55 crore and to ECL Rs. 582.69 crore, respectively.

Expenditure as reported by the ECL is Rs. 576.48 Crore (Rs. 573.56 crore by ADDA & Rs. 2.92 crore by ECL) and expenditure as reported by the BCCL is Rs. 1,558.98 Crore (Rs. 810.05 crore by BCCL and Rs.748.61 crore by JRDA till February, 2021).

(D) *Revision of Master Plan of JCF & RCF:*

The time frame of 10 years for implementation of Raniganj Master Plan, has already expired on 11.08.2019 and validity of approved Jharia Master plan is till August, 2021. As per directive of 19th HPCC meeting, draft comprehensive proposal incorporating alternative rehabilitation package, time and cost overrun have been prepared by the ECL in consultation with CMPDI, RI-I & ADDA and by the BCCL in consultation with CMPDI RI-II & JRDA.

Both the comprehensive proposals have been discussed in the 20th & 21st HPCC meetings. As per the directive of the 21st HPCC meeting held on 04.03.2020, revision of the both the proposals is under finalisation at JRDA and ADDA, respectively.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

e-Auction of Coal Blocks as per provisions of the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 and incorporation of digital technology

12. The Committee, while appreciating the efforts of the Government for taking various new initiatives for bringing in the desired level of transparency in coal block allocation after 2014 and also for introducing a new auction methodology in the form of e-auction on an electronic platform to increase transparency in bidding and auction process in respect of Coal Mines sector and to open it up for competition, had recommended the Ministry of Coal that the momentum in regard to e-auctioning should be invariably maintained by them and further, all the Public Sector Coal Companies should also be encouraged to introduce digital technology in all their commercial activities.

13. In response to the above recommendations of the Committee, the Ministry of Coal, in their action taken replies, have *inter alia* submitted that all the Coal Companies have been directed to encourage the introduction of technologies in all their commercial activities and further, digital technologies in various commercial activities are being adopted for maintaining transparency and minimizing human intervention. Some of the initiatives already in place are as follows:-

- Implementation of Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) whereby Phase-1 has gone live covering Coal India Limited (CIL), Mahanadi

Coalfields Limited (MCL) and Western Coalfield Limited (WCL). Rest of the subsidiaries will go live in Phase-II within this year.

- **Digitalization as per Industry 4.0 practices for 7 big mines has been undertaken. The technology will be replicated in other mines as well, subsequently.**
- **Creation of several portals for management to take informed decisions and for consumer satisfaction. Web Applications for Production Information System, Safety Information System, CIL-CSR, Human Resource Management System (HRMS), Coal Consumer Reconciliation Portal, Quality Monitoring Portal are few of the major ones.**
- **As a significant contribution towards “Digital Green India”, E-office solution from NIC has been implemented in CIL and its subsidiaries to augment paperless office.**
- **Under the project “DMS”, CIL has digitized more than 80 lakhs documents at its Corporate Headquarters.**
- **Procurement of Goods, Works and Services in Coal India and its subsidiary companies is being done through e-Procurement mode. Tenders are finalised through e-Tender mode with provision of reverse auction in Coal India to ensure greater transparency and better cost effectiveness during tender procedures in goods, works and services.**
- **e-Auction of coal is operational through service providers of CIL.**
- **Performance Evaluation, Vigilance Information and Annual Property Return of executives in Coal India is carried out through web enabled systems.**

14. The Committee are satisfied to note that the Coal Companies have been incorporating and adopting digital technologies in their commercial activities for maintaining transparency and minimizing human intervention. The Committee are of the considered opinion that besides increasing transparency, the use of digital technologies in commercial and other activities involved in the coal mines, viz., auctioning, allotment and allocation of coal blocks, management and administration of human resources, procurement of goods and services would not only reduce the costs but would also improve the business productivity along with market and procurement process efficiency. The Committee, therefore, would like to reiterate and re-emphasize that the Ministry of Coal should put in their concerted efforts to keep the momentum going towards their endeavour to sustain the e-auction system as per the provisions of the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 and to encourage all the Public Sector Coal Companies to incorporate digital technology in all of their commercial and other activities. The Committee would like to be apprised of the necessary action taken in this regard.

15. As per the information furnished by the Ministry of Coal, the Committee are also glad to note that Phase-I of the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) implementation has already gone live, thereby, covering Coal India Limited (CIL), Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) and Western Coalfield Limited (WCL) and rest of the subsidiaries would go live under Phase-II within this year. The Committee hope and trust that the Ministry of Coal

would ensure that phase-wise implementation of Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) is completed in all the subsidiaries of CIL and other Public Sector Coal Companies at the earliest. The Committee would like to be informed about the updated status and necessary action taken in this regard.

16. The Committee are further pleased to note that digitalization as per Industry 4.0 practices in respect of 7 big Coal Mines has already been undertaken and the technology would also be replicated in other Mines as well. In this regard, the Committee hope that the Ministry of Coal would ensure active implementation of digitalization process as per Industry 4.0 practices in all the remaining coal mines in order to make them not only efficient but also financially viable vis-a-vis the sustainable development of the coal industry in the country. The Committee would like to be informed about the updated status necessary action taken in this regard.

Safety, health and welfare provisions for employees working in the Coal Mines

17. The Committee, while examining the representation in light of the submissions made by the Ministry of Coal, had noted that the provisions and clauses relating to safety, health and welfare of persons employed in the Coal Mines have been prescribed in the Mines Act, 1952, the Mines Rules, 1955, the Coal Mines Regulations (CMR), 2017 and in the Coal Mines Development and Production Agreement signed between the Nominated Authority and the Successful Bidder of the Private Allottees. The Committee,

nevertheless, were astonished at the non-existence of such explicit provision, clause or section in the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 and the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Rules, 2014. Keeping in view the ever changing situation in a Coal Mine and geographical considerations thereon, the Committee, while advocating that any law related to the Coal Mines ought not to be rigid or fixed and instead, it should be made flexible enough to take into account various variable factors and/or unforeseen circumstances without compromising the efficacy and their overall financial viability, had suggested that the aspects relating to safety, health and welfare of persons employed in the Coal Mines cannot be relegated to a secondary position and hence, these aspects should also be taken into consideration through appropriate legislative processes. The Committee had, therefore, recommended that a pragmatic safety management system, thereby plugging all the loopholes, should be put in place at the right earnest, for which the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 and the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Rules, 2014 should be amended accordingly, so as to appropriately include safety, health and welfare provisions.

18. The Committee, while acknowledging the fact that all statutes related to mines safety are equally applicable to all the Coal Mines in the country, irrespective of their nature of ownership and the DGMS has the authority and responsibility for enforcing various Rules and Regulations in respect of Private Coal Companies, had impressed upon the Ministry of Coal to ensure that there is no inconsistency in the application of mines safety statutes in

the case of Public Sector Undertakings *vis-a-vis* the Private Coal Companies and in case any violation is noticed at any stage of their operations, responsibility should be fixed and appropriate action, in accordance with law, initiated against the officer(s) responsible or proprietor(s) in a consistent manner.

19. The Committee had also noted that the Nodal Agency for ensuring mines safety is the DGMS (*under the Ministry of Labour and Employment*) which have been entrusted with the responsibility of mines safety in various forms, *viz.*, organising National Conference on Safety in Mines, holding Rescue Competitions, awarding National Safety Awards (Mines), etc. In this connection, the Committee while highlighting that Coal Mines, being one of the major constituents in the Mining Sector, had advised that the Ministry of Coal should take the proactive role in ensuring proper coordination with the DGMS for Coal Mines Safety related issues in order to implement all the safety measures and achieve the intended common objectives. For the said purpose, the Committee expected that the Ministry of Coal, in coordination with the DGMS, would take the initiative of organising Seminars, Workshops, etc., on Mines Safety, on a regular basis, at the Headquarters and Regional Offices of the subsidiaries of CIL and other Public Sector Undertakings.

20. In pursuance thereof, the Ministry of Coal, in their action taken replies, have *inter alia* submitted that though the safety issues in all Mines including Coal Mines come under the statutory and administrative domain of the

Labour Ministry which administers the laws through its Directorate General of Mines Safety, proposal for amendment in the CMSP Act, 2015 and the CMPS Rules, 2014 for incorporating safety, health and welfare provisions is under active consideration of the Ministry of Coal and the said exercise would be undertaken by consulting the Ministry of Labour & Employment and other related Ministries. The Ministry of Coal have also assured the Committee that all the statutes related to safety of Mines are being followed in all Mines (Public and Private) and in case of any violation, suitable action as deemed fit is being initiated. The Ministry of Coal have further assured that as the DGMS under the Ministry of Labour and Employment, has been made responsible for ensuring that there is no inconsistency in the application of mines safety statutes in the case of Public Sector Undertakings *vis-a-vis* the Private Coal Companies, in case, any violation is noticed at any stage of their operations, responsibility could be fixed and appropriate action, in accordance with law, could be initiated against the officer(s) responsible or proprietor(s) in a consistent manner. The Ministry of Coal, in their action taken replies, have informed that every year, DGMS organise several Workshops, Seminars, etc., on various aspects of mines safety, in which the employees of subsidiaries of CIL and other Public Sector Undertakings participate. Apart from this, several Workshops, Seminars, etc., on mines safety are also organised in coordination with the DGMS by the subsidiaries of CIL and other Public Sector Undertakings themselves. In this chronology, the Ministry of Coal have also assured that, as per recommendation of the Committee on Petitions, more Workshops, Seminars,

etc., would be organised at the subsidiary Headquarter level as well as Area level on Mines Safety in coordination with the DGMS for enhancing safety awareness level amongst employees. Besides, an Expert Committee on safety with a view to ensuring adoption of international best practices in safety and overall improvement in safe practices has also been constituted.

21. Notwithstanding the fact that the safety related issues in all the Mines including the Coal Mines come under the statutory and administrative domain of the Ministry of Labour & Employment, which administers the law(s) through the Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS), the Committee are happy to note that the proposal for amendment(s) in the CMSP Act, 2015 and CMPS Rules, 2014 for incorporating safety, health and welfare provisions is under active consideration of the Ministry of Coal. However, in this regard, the Committee would like to impress upon the Ministry of Coal to finalise the probable amendment(s) in the Act/Rules *ibid* for incorporating safety, health and welfare provisions, in consultation with the Ministry of Labour & Employment and other Ministries/Departments, without any further delay. The Committee trust that the relevant Amendment Bill would be introduced in Parliament at the right earnest.

22. The Committee are satisfied with the reassurance given by the Ministry of Coal that there would not be any inconsistency in the application of mines safety statutes in the case of Public Sector Undertakings *vis-a-vis* the Private Coal Companies. The Committee, however, impress upon the Ministry of

Coal to oversee the Coal Mines operations and also to coordinate with the DGMS/Ministry of Labour & Employment to ensure that all Statutes related to mines safety are being followed in all types of mines (*Public and Private*).

Expeditious payment of compensation in the cases of coal mine accidents

23. While taking note of the fact that the total number of cases of compensation being dealt with by the subsidiary companies of CIL was 213 and the total amount of compensation paid to the dependent(s) of the deceased mine employees as per the Employee Compensation Act, 1923 (Principal Act amended up to 2017) was Rs. 1,438.1 lakh between 2015-2019, the Committee had expressed their satisfaction on the revised grant of Rs. 15 lakh as an additional ex-gratia to the dependent(s) of deceased workers (including contractual worker) *w.e.f.* 07.11.2019. However, the Committee had impressed upon the Ministry of Coal to ensure strict compliance of all the provisions in respect of compensation in case of mine accidents (fatalities) by the subsidiaries of CIL including other Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry and their Joint Venture Companies or the Private Coal Companies as per the relevant Rules/Laws/Policies/Schemes. The Committee had further urged the Ministry to ensure that all the pending cases of compensation were being disposed of by the Coal Companies at the earliest and the compensation, in monetary terms, were also being paid to the dependent(s) through electronic mode and also sought the details of total compensation amount paid to the dependents during the last one year, through the electronic mode.

24. The Ministry of Coal, in their action taken replies, have submitted that as per Section 8 (1) of the Employee's Compensation Act (ECA), 1923 (Principal Act), no payment of compensation in respect of a workman whose injury has resulted in death, and no payment of a lump sum amount as compensation to a woman or a person under a legal disability, shall be made otherwise than by depositing it with the Commissioner. The Ministry of Coal have further submitted before the Committee that CIL and its subsidiaries deposit the calculated compensation amount to the duly appointed Commissioner as per ECA, 1923 (Principal Act) along with duly filled in Form-A and the Commissioner, thereafter, issue a receipt in Form-B. The Commissioner, then, disburses the compensation to the dependent of the deceased employee after necessary verification and issue the Statement of Disbursements under Form-C prescribed in the Workmen's Compensation Rules, 1924 framed under the Principal Act. The Ministry have also informed that appropriate action is initiated by the Commissioner appointed under Section 20 of the ECA, 1923 (Principal Act) for any violation of provisions under the Act and the Rules framed thereunder. In this connection, the Ministry of Coal have informed the Committee that as on date, the mode of deposit of the compensation amount to the Commissioner as per the ECA, 1923 is the 'Demand Draft' for convenience of issuance of 'Receipt for Compensation' under Form-B. However, the CIL and its subsidiaries would comply with the amendment whatsoever made in respect of the ECA-1923 (Principal Act) by the Government for easing the process of payment. The

Ministry of Coal have further informed that the total compensation amount paid by the subsidiaries of CIL as per the ECA, 1923 (Principal Act) is Rs. 3,01,61,016/-.

25. In the backdrop of details furnished by the Ministry, the Committee desire that the Ministry of Coal should ensure that compensation for coal mine accidents should be released to the dependents without any administrative delay. It should also be ensured that all the pending cases of compensation are disposed of by the Coal Companies at the earliest. In this context, the Committee would also impress upon the Ministry of Coal to explore the possibility for payment of compensation to the dependents only through electronic mode. The Committee would like to be apprised of the necessary action taken by the Ministry of Coal in this regard.

Implementation of Jharia and Raniganj Master Plan

26. While appreciating the efforts of the BCCL and the ECL in regard to implementing the Jharia and Raniganj Master Plan, which was formulated to address the problem of fire, land subsidence and for the rehabilitation and resettlement of the affected persons due to Coal Mines project(s), the Committee had urged the Ministry of Coal for ensuring an effective coordination mechanism with the State Governments of West Bengal and Jharkhand and other stakeholders to expedite the implementation of the Jharia and Raniganj Master Plan. The Committee were, however, dissatisfied to note that though the delineated time period for the implementation of the

Master Plan had already been exceeded in the case of Raniganj Coalfields (RCF) which was 10 years, and in case of Jharia Coalfields (JCF), wherein, it was 10+2 years, which had also touched its targeted timeline, the CIL had infused only an amount of Rs. 1,961.14 crore till February, 2020, which is only half of the contribution of Rs. 4,200 crore for joint implementation of the Master Plan. While pointing out that shortage of funds should not come in the way of implementation of such an important Plan, the Committee had recommended to the Ministry of Coal to persuade CIL to contribute the remaining amount towards the implementation of the Jharia and Raniganj Master Plan. The Committee had further recommended the Ministry to render all possible assistance to the State Government(s) concerned to find out implementable solutions for rehabilitation and resettlement issues in respect of the private and unauthorised persons affected due to Coal Mines project in order to ensure faster and time bound implementation of the Master Plan.

27. Based on the information furnished by the Ministry of Coal, in their action taken replies, the Committee observe that the following actions/steps have been initiated towards the implementation of Jharia and Raniganj Master Plan:-

(A) Jharia Master Plan:

(i) Fire Control - BCCL have adopted the method of digging out fire through excavation and winning of coal and parallel mitigating the fire hazard. As a result of these efforts, the fire area decreased to 2.18 sq. km as per the National Remote Sensing

Centre (NRSC) Study of 2014. However, it has increased to 3.28 sq. km in 2018, mainly due to opening of more UG fire areas for excavation and quenching. As per Interim Report for the year 2020, the total number of fire sites identified is 27. However, the total fire area is yet to be assessed. Out of these 27 patches, 15 sites are economically viable, as assessed by the Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Limited (CMPDIL), wherein, fire control works have been awarded and their implementation started. Completion time for digging out fire at these sites ranges from 2 years to 9 years as estimated by the CMPDIL. The process of digging out the fire at remaining 12 sites is found to be economically unviable as assessed by the CMPDIL. However, in 5 sites, estimates have been finalised and for balance 7 sites, estimates are under preparation by the CMPDIL. In 3 sites, out of the 7, action would be taken after diversion of DB road and shifting of MADA Colony. BCCL has submitted tentative alignment for shifting of DB road and MADA Colony and water reservoir during a meeting held at DC Office on 06.10.2020. The total tentative investment required in digging out these 12 sites is approximately Rs. 22,050 crore and after offsetting the coal sale value, i.e., Rs. 7,050 crore, approximately Rs. 15,000 crore would be required for which source of funding needs to be worked out. Completion time for digging out fire at these sites ranges from 6 years to 13 years as estimated by the CMPDIL.

- (ii) Re-settlement & Re-habilitation status of BCCL & non-BCCL families - For rehabilitation of BCCL families, construction of 15,852 houses has been taken by the BCCL. Till February 2021, 7,714 houses have already been constructed by the BCCL and 4,185 families have been shifted. Further, construction of 18,352 houses for rehabilitation of non-BCCL families has been taken up by the Jharia Rehabilitation and Development Authority (JRDA) in Belgoria Rehabilitation Township 'Jharia Vihar'. Till February 2021, 6,352 houses have already been completed, in which 2,537 families have been shifted and balance 12,000 houses are under different stages of construction.

(B) Raniganj Master Plan:

Rehabilitation status of ECL & non-ECL families - As per the Master Plan, there are three locations namely, Jote Janki, Amritnagar and Ratibati 3,4 & 7 pits, where houses of ECL comes under fire affected area. ECL has already shifted all of its employees to the existing ECL quarters at stable locations and demolished all the structures, which were within the fire affected subsided zone. Further, construction of 12,976 flats at four identified resettlement sites, i.e., at Bijohnagar, Daskeary, Dakshinkhanda and Namokeshia, for shifting non-ECL families have been taken up by the Asansol Durgapur Development Authority (ADDA) which is the implementing agency on the behalf of Government of West Bengal for rehabilitation of Non-ECL families. At present, construction of 3,584 flats has already been completed and 6,336 flats are in different stages of construction at resettlement sites for shifting of non-ECL families.

(C) Fund Released and Utilised against Master Plan:

After approval of the Master Plan, total fund released by the CIL is Rs. 2,160 crore (*till February 2021*) for implementation of both the Master Plans, out of which, the total fund released to BCCL is Rs. 1,577.55 crore and to ECL Rs. 582.69 crore respectively. Expenditure as reported by the ECL is Rs. 576.48 crore (Rs. 573.56 crore by ADDA & Rs. 2.92 crore by ECL) and expenditure as reported by the BCCL is Rs. 1,558.98 crore (Rs. 810.05 crore by BCCL and Rs. 748.61 crore by JRDA till February 2021).

(D) Revision of Master Plan of JCF & RCF:

The time frame of 10 years for implementation of Raniganj Master Plan has already expired on 11.08.2019 and the validity of approved Jharia Master plan is till August 2021. As per

directive of 19th HPCC meeting, draft comprehensive proposal incorporating alternative rehabilitation package, time and cost overrun has been prepared by the ECL in consultation with CMPDIL, RI-I & ADDA and by the BCCL in consultation with CMPDIL RI-II & JRDA. Both the comprehensive proposals have been discussed in the 20th and 21st HPCC meetings and as per the directive of the 21st HPCC meeting held on 04.03.2020, revision of the both the proposals is under finalisation at JRDA and ADDA, respectively.

28. Notwithstanding the fact that the implementation status and revision in respect to both the Master Plans, i.e., Jharia and Raniganj Master Plan are being regularly discussed at the meetings of the High Powered Central Committee (HPCC) headed by the Secretary, Ministry of Coal, the Committee expect that the Ministry of Coal would have finalised the proposal at JRDA and ADDA as per the directive of the 21st HPCC meeting held on 04.03.2020 in coordination with the State Governments of West Bengal and Jharkhand. The Committee also recommend the Ministry of Coal to render all possible assistance to the State Government(s) concerned to find out implementable solutions for fire control, rehabilitation and resettlement issues in respect of BCCL/ECL families and also the private and unauthorised persons affected due to Coal Mines Projects in order to ensure faster and effective implementation of the JCF and RCF Master Plans with revised targets/timeline for completion of both the Master Plans with optimal utilisation of the funds released by the CIL for the purpose by the BCCL and ECL. The Committee would like to be apprised of the updated status *vis-a-vis*

necessary action taken by the Ministry of Coal in regard to implementation of Jharia and Raniganj Master Plans.

NEW DELHI;
22 December, 2021
1 Pausha, 1943 (Saka)

HARISH DWIVEDI,
Chairperson,
Committee on Petitions

THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION RULES, 1924¹

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 32 of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 (8 of 1923), the Governor-General in Council is pleased to make the following rules:—

FORM A

[See rule 6 (1)]

DEPOSIT OF COMPENSATION FOR FATAL ACCIDENT

[Section 8(1) of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923]

Compensation amounting to Rs. is hereby presented for deposit in respect of injuries resulting in the death of the workman, whose particulars are given below, which occurred on

Name

Father's Name

(Husband's name in case of married woman and widow.)

Caste

Local address

Permanent address

His/Her monthly wages are estimated at Rs. He/She was over/ under the age of 15 years at the time of his/her death.

2. The said workman had, prior to the date of his/her death, received the following payments, namely:—

Rs. on

Rs. on

Rs. on

Rs. on

Rs. on

Rs. on

amounting in all to Rs.

3. An advance of Rs. has been made on account of compensation to being his/her dependant.

4. I do not desire to be made a party to the proceedings for distribution of the foresaid compensation.

Dated

Employer.

*An employer desiring to be made a party to the proceedings should strike out the words "do not".

FORM B
(See rule 6)

RECEIPT FOR COMPENSATION

[Deposited under section 8 (1) of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923]

Book No. Receipt No.....

Register No.

Depositor Deceased or injured workman

Date of deposit

Sum deposited Rs

.....
Commissioner.

FORM C
(See rule 6)

STATEMENT OF DISBURSEMENTS

[Section 8 (4) of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923]

Serial No.

Depositor

Date20.....

Amount deposited.....

Amount deducted and repaid to the employer under the proviso to section 8 (1)

Funeral expenses paid

Compensation paid to the following dependants :

Name	Relationship
.....
.....

Total —

Dated

.....
Commissioner.

PART II
DEPOSITS OF COMPENSATION

6. *Deposits under Section 8(1).* – (1) An employer depositing compensation with the Commissioner under sub-section (1) of Section 8, in respect of a workman whose injury has resulted in death shall furnish therewith a statement in Form A, and shall be given a receipt in Form B. In other cases of deposits with the Commissioner under sub-section (1) of Section 8, the employer shall furnish a statement in Form AA, and shall be given a receipt in Form B.

(2) If, when depositing compensation in respect of fatal accidents, the employer indicates in the statement referred to in sub-section (1) that he desires to be made a party to the distribution proceedings, the Commissioner shall, before allotting the sum deposited as compensation, afford to the employer an opportunity of establishing that the person to whom he proposes to allot such sum is not a dependent of the deceased workman or, as the case may be that no one of such person is a dependent.

(3) The statement of disbursements to be furnished on application by the employer under sub-section (4) of Section 8 shall be in Form C.