

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3896
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.12.2019**

Opening of New Coal Mines

3896. SHRI NAKUL KAMAL NATH:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning to open two coal mines in Chhindwara District of Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) if so, whether mines will be open cast or underground;
- (c) whether the opening of the above mines will generate employment and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is planning on underground mining; and
- (e) whether the Government is aware that underground mining will not generate employment due to mechanized mining and will only benefit the coal company, Western Coalfields Ltd. and if so, the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, COAL AND MINES
(SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)**

(a) & (b): Yes. WCL is planning to open two underground (UG) coal mines in chhindwara District of Madhya Pradesh namely:

1. Sharda UG, Kanhan Area, WCL
2. Dhankasa UG, PENCH Area, WCL

(c): Yes Sir. The opening of above mines will generate employment. As per approved Project Report of Dhankasa UG Mine, 490 number of manpower is envisaged for its operation and of Sharda UG Mine, 547 number of manpower is envisaged for its operation. Manpower for both the mines will be sourced through internal resources of WCL.

(d): Yes, these mines are planned for Underground method of working.

(e): In underground mining, apart from generation of employment to the company manpower, employment will also be generated against various provisions of Rehabilitation & Resettlement (R&R) Policy of the coal company.
