Section-wise Consolidated note for urgent use

P&S-I

1. **CBA Rules, 2017 (Notified vide G.S.R. 877(E) dated 13.07.2017)**

- The CBA Rules, 2017 consolidated various amendments made in old 2012 Rules and further replaced the 2012 Rules.
- The Rules are made in line with the provisions of Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Rule, 2014 so as to have a common legal regime for allocation of coal block/ mines.
- The Rules accommodate the provisions of new Standard Bidding Document for UMPPs framed by Ministry of Power to facilitate allotment of coal blocks for UMPPs.
- The Rules mandates that the coal blocks shall be auctioned through electronic mode.
- The Rules provides for auction of coal blocks for sale of coal (commercial mining).

2. **Mineral Laws (Amendment) Act, 2020**

Mineral Laws (Amendment) Act, 2020 was notified in the Gazette of India on 13.03.2020. This Act amended the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act) and the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 (CMSP Act).

The above amendment has the following Impact/Expected Outcome:-

- Amendments allow allocation of coal and lignite blocks for composite Prospecting Licence-cum-Mining Lease & has removed the possibility of restrictive interpretation of auction conditions.
- The above amendment would clarify that the companies which do not possess any prior coal mining experience but are financially strong and/ or have mining experience in other minerals or in other countries can participate in auction of coal/lignite blocks. Further, the proposed amendment would facilitate implementation of recently amended FDI Policy in Coal Sector which allows 100% FDI through automatic route for sale of coal, coal mining activities including associated processing infrastructure.
- Remove redundant & repetitive requirements of previous approval of the Government in certain cases.
- Appointment of designated custodian for management of mines under production whose vesting/ allotment order has been cancelled has been provided.
- Successful bidder/ allottees allowed to utilize coal mined, in any of its subsidiary or holding company.
- Mines utilize both skilled and unskilled workforce for mining operations, besides impetus to allied activities. Thus direct and indirect employment will be generated in coal bearing states.

3. **Coal Blocks Allocation (Amendment) Rules, 2020**

The Coal Blocks Allocation Rules have been amended vide the Coal Blocks Allocation (Amendment) Rules, 2020 w.e.f. 18.05.2020 in light of the amendment in the MMDR Act made by the Mineral Laws (Amendment) Act, 2020. The said amendments have been made to provide details regarding procedure for allocation of coal blocks for PL-cum-ML.

4. **Colliery Control (Amendment) Rules, 2021 (Notified vide Gazette G.S.R. 546(E) dated 09.08.2021) :**

With the objective of scrutinizing the relevance and requirement of various compliances as well as rationalizing, reducing and simplifying the related processes to enhance ease of doing business by doing away parallel compliances, CMCD Act and CMCD Rules have been repealed reducing one Act from the compliance burden and CCR, 2004 have been amended vide Colliery Control (Amendment) Rules, 2021 which have been notified and published in the Gazette of India vide G.S.R. 546(E) dated 09.08.2021.

5. **Mineral Concession (Amendment) Rules, 2021 (Notified vide G.S.R 717(E) on 01.10.2021) - Liberalization allowing sale of up to 50% coal produced in a year by captive coal mines:**

Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2021, carried out amendments in MMDR Act 1957. The said amendments necessitated amendments in the Mineral Concession (Amendment) Rules, 1960. Hence, MCR, 1960 have been appropriately amended vide the Mineral Concession (Amendment) Rules, 2021.

The said amendments aim at enhancing the availability of domestic coal or lignite in the open market by allowing lessees of captive mines to sell prescribed quantity of coal or lignite. The allowance for sale prescribed quantity of coal or lignite shall also motivate the captive lessees to enhance the production from the captive mines. Further, payment of additional amount, royalty and other statutory payments in respect of the quantity of coal or lignite sold shall boost the revenue of the State Governments.

6. **Mineral Concession (Amendment) Rules, 2022(Notified vide G.S.R. 684(E) dated 07.09.2022)**

Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 (MCR) have been amended by notifying Mineral Concession (Amendment) Rules, 2022 vide notification dated 07.09.2022 with a view to decriminalize its provisions. MCR regulates the application and grant of mineral concessions such as reconnaissance permit, prospecting license, and mining lease. These concessions are pre-requisites for development and operationalization of mines entailing several compliances on the part of businesses.

Government has been taking initiatives for reducing compliances for business and citizens. To further promote and boost the ‘Ease of doing business’ policy of the government, the amendment in MCR decriminalized sixty-eight (68) provisions whereas penalty has been reduced for ten (10) provisions of MCR.

Express provision has been introduced for adjustment of additional or shortfall royalty. Further, rate of penal interest on delayed payment of rent, royalty, fee, or other sums due to the Government has been reduced from twenty-four percent (24%) to twelve percent (12%). It is expected that these provisions shall afford the much-required economic relaxations in the coal mining sector.

7. **Notification to rescind the earlier notification (Notification was published in Gazette of India vide S.O. 955(E) dated 01.03.2023)** :

The Central Government has rescinded the notification of the Government of India, Ministry of Coal, published in Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, sub-section (ii) number S.O. 645 (E) dated 2nd March 2016 (...directs that the powers of the Coal Controller under sub-rule (3), (4), (5) of rule 4, rules 5, 7, 10 and 12 of the Colliery Control Rules, 2004 shall be exercised by the respective State Governments or such officer as authorised by it through notification...) except as respect things done or omitted to be done before such rescission.

CPD Section

A. Policies related to Coal Distribution

1. Coal Linkages to Power Sector (SHAKTI Policy):

The Government approved the fading away of the existing Letter of Assurance (LoA) - Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA) regime and introduced Scheme for Harnessing and Allocating Koyala (Coal) Transparently in India (SHAKTI), 2017, which was issued by the Ministry of Coal on 22.05.2017. The Government also approved amendments to the SHAKTI Policy, 2017, which was issued by the Ministry of Coal on 25.03.2019. The main features of the SHAKTI Policy (as detailed under its various Paras) are as under:

Para A: FSA may be signed with pending LoA holders after ensuring that the plants are commissioned, respective milestones met, all specified conditions of the LoA fulfilled within specified time frame and where nothing adverse is detected against the LoA holder. Further, it has allowed continuation of the existing coal supply to the capacities of about 68,000 MW at the rate of 75% of Annual Contracted Quantity (ACQ), which may further be increased in future, based on coal availability. The policy has enabled coal supplies at 75% of ACQ against FSA to about 19,000 MW capacities, which have been delayed in commissioning, provided these plants are commissioned within 31.03.2022. The medium term Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) to be concluded in future against bids invited by DISCOMS have also been made eligible for linkage coal supply.

Para B (i): The Coal India Limited (CIL)/ the Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) may grant coal linkages to State/Central Gencos/Joint Ventures at notified price on the recommendations of the Ministry of Power.

Para B (ii): Linkages to Independent Power Producers (IPPs), having Long Term PPAs based on domestic coal, where IPPs, participating in auction, will bid for discount on the tariff (in paise/unit). The bidders, who could not participate in the linkage auction under B (ii) due to any reason, may be allowed to participate in the B (ii) auctions of this policy. Further, the bidders, who could not secure linkage for full ACQ, may obtain linkage for the balance quantity by participating in future auctions at a later stage under B (ii) after benchmarking discount.

Para B (iii): Linkages to IPPs/ Power Producers without PPAs shall be on auction basis.

Para B (iv): Coal linkages may also be earmarked for fresh PPAs, by pre-declaring the availability of coal linkage with description, to the States. The States may indicate these linkages to DISCOMS/State Designated Agencies (SDAs).

Para B (v): Power requirement of group of States can also be aggregated and procurement of such aggregated power can be made by an agency, designated by the Ministry of Power or authorized by such States on the basis of tariff based bidding.

Para B (vi): Linkages shall be granted for full normative quantity to Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) incorporated by nominated agency for setting up Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPPs) under Central Government initiative through tariff based competitive bidding under the guidelines for determination of tariff, on the recommendation of the Ministry of Power.

Para B (vii): The Ministry of Coal, in consultation with the Ministry of Power, may formulate a detailed methodology of a transparent bidding process for allocating coal linkages to IPPs, having PPAs, based on imported coal with full pass through of cost savings to the consumers.

Para B (viii):

a. Power plants with no PPAs are allowed coal linkage under B (iii) & B (iv) for a period of minimum 3 months upto a maximum of 1 year for sale of power generated through the linkage in Day Ahead Market (DAM) through power exchanges or in short term through Discovery of Efficient Energy Price (DEEP) portal.

b. Use of the existing coal linkage for sale of power through short term PPAs using DEEP portal or power exchange by the generator, which terminates PPA in case of default in payment by the DISCOM, for a maximum period of 2 years or until they find another buyer of power under long /medium term PPA, whichever is earlier.

c. Coal linkage under B (v) is also applicable in cases, where the nodal agency designated by the Ministry of Power aggregates/procures the power requirement for a group of States even without requisition from such States.

d. Central and State generating companies can act as an aggregator of power of stressed power assets.

e. Mechanism to ensure servicing of debt.

As of now, coal linkages to the following capacities have been granted under various Paras of the policy:

i. Clearance has been given for signing of Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA) to 9 LoA holders with a total capacity of 8,780 MW under provisions of para A(i) of SHAKTI policy.
ii. 40 Thermal Power Plants (TPPs) have been granted linkage for a total capacity of 40,160 MW under provisions of para B (i) of SHAKTI policy.
iii. Five rounds of linkage auctions under para B (ii) of SHAKTI Policy have been completed. The details are as below:

a. First round was conducted in September, 2017, where 27.18 Million Tonne Per Annum (MTPA) of linkages was booked by 10 successful bidders.
b. Second round conducted in May, 2019, where 2.97 MTPA of linkages was booked by 8 successful bidders.
c. Third round was conducted by PFC Consulting Limited (PFCCL) during May, 2020, where 2.80 MTPA of linkages was booked by 5 successful bidders.

d. Fourth round was conducted by PFCCL in September, 2021, where, 3.20 MTPA of linkages was booked by 5 successful bidders.
e. Fifth round was conducted by PFCCL in December, 2022, where, 0.05 MTPA of linkages was booked by 2 successful bidders.

iv. Four rounds of linkage auction under Para B (iii) of SHAKTI Policy have been completed. The details are as below

a. First round was conducted in February, 2020, where against an offer of 11.8 MTPA, a quantity of 6.48 MTPA was booked by 7 successful bidders.
b. Second round was conducted in May, 2022, where against an offer of 9.00 MTPA, a quantity of 6.42 MTPA was booked by 8 successful bidders.
c. Third round was conducted in September, 2022, where against an offer of 5.10 MTPA, a quantity of 5.10 MTPA was booked by 5 successful bidders.
d. Fourth round was conducted in February, 2023, where against an offer of 8.10 MTPA, a quantity of 4.30 MTPA was booked by 11 successful bidders.

v. Coal linkage was granted from Coal India Limited for the States of Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh for a capacity of 4000 MW, 1600 MW and 2640 MW respectively under B (iv) of the Shakti policy. Coal linkage earmarked to the state of U.P. has lapsed as no tariff based bidding was undertaken by the state. Coal linkage earmarked to the state of Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat continues to the extent of power requirement procured / to be procured through tariff based bidding. The balance quantity has lapsed.
vi. Coal linkage was earmarked from Coal India Limited for a capacity of 2500 MW for linkage under Para B (v) of SHAKTI Policy. The 10 MT coal linkage earmarked under B (v) has lapsed as no tariff based bidding was undertaken by Ministry of Power / Agency. Fresh coal linkage under B (v) has been earmarked from Coal India Limited for 4500 MW Medium Term power requirement.
vii. 13 tranches of Linkage Auction have been conducted by Coal India Limited under B (viii) (a) of SHAKTI Policy. Out of total offered quantity of 69.28 MT of Coal, 33.38 MT have been booked by successful bidders.

2. Auction for coal linkages for Non-Regulated Sector:

In 2016, a new policy on Auction of Coal Linkages to Non-Regulated Sector (NRS) was introduced. The policy prescribes that allocation of linkages for Non-Regulated Sector [except Fertilizer (urea)] shall be auction based. Further, there is provision that there shall be no renewal of the then existing Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA) [except for CPSEs and Fertilizer (Urea)] and the new FSAs shall be for the maximum period of 15 years. With the amendment to the policy introduced in 2020, the tenure of coking coal linkages in the Non-Regulated Sector linkage auction has been revised for a period upto 30 years. For auction of coal linkages under the Policy, separate quantities are earmarked for sub-sectors of Non-Regulated Sector. The sub-sectors compete within themselves. Presently, the sub-sectors are Cement, Sponge Iron, CPP, Steel (Coking), Others (Coking) and Others.

A new sub-sector 'Production of Syn-Gas leading to coal gasification' has recently been created (in the month of February, 2022) under the NRS linkage auctions in order to encourage coal gasification technology so that new consumers requiring coal for coal gasification are incentivized.

So far, five tranches of linkage auctions for the NRS have been conducted by Coal India Limited, where a coal linkage quantity of 131.19 MT has been booked. The Tranche – VI of NRS linkage auction has also commenced. NRS Linkage auction for Sponge Iron Sub- sector in Tranche-VI was completed by Coal India Limited during March, 2023, wherein a quantity of 10.98 MT was booked. In total, 142.17 MT of coal quantity has been booked in the NRS linkage auctions.

The Quantity booked under five tranches is placed below.

(In MT)

Sub-sector	**Tranche I**	**Tranche II**	**Tranche III**	**Tranche IV**	**Tranche V**	**Total**
Steel (coking)	--	0.22	0.00	0.65	1.30	2.17
Sponge Iron	2.05	4.29	2.54	6.37	4.19	19.43
Cement	0.68	0.77	0.12	4.26	2.95	8.78
CPP	18.07	8.18	4.59	15.90	38.33	85.08
Others	1.34	1.27	0.67	6.00	2.89	12.17
Others (coking)	--	0.04	0.36	2.17	1.00	3.57
Total	**22.14**	**14.76**	**8.28**	**35.35**	**50.66**	**131.19**

The Tranche – VI, NRS Linkage auction for sponge iron subsector completed during March' 2023, wherein a quantity of 10.98 MT was booked.

3. Policy on Bridge Linkage:

Bridge Linkage is a policy of Ministry of Coal for grant coal linkage to specified end-use plants of Central and State PSUs (Both in Power as well as NRS) which have been allotted coal mines / blocks issued on 08.02.2016.

i. Bridge Linkage acts as a short term linkage to bridge the gap between requirement of coal of a specified end use plant of Central and State PSUs and start of production from the linked coal mine / block.

ii. Bridge Linkage is allocated only against Schedule-III coal blocks of CM (SP) Act and the coal blocks allocated under MMDR Act. The coal is supplied under Bridge Linkage on best effort MoU basis.

iii. 36 Power Plants have been granted Bridge Linkage for 41,780 MW capacities.

4. Rationalization of Coal Linkages:

Rationalization of coal linkages is a policy initiative of Ministry of Coal in order to reduce the distance in transportation of coal from the coal mines to the consumer. Coal linkage rationalization in power sector has resulted in decrease in transportation cost from the mines to the power plants leading to more efficient coal base power generation. The exercise helps in reducing the load on the transportation infrastructure, easing the evacuation constraints as well as reduction in landed cost of coal. The methodology for rationalization of coal for IPPs/Private sector plants was also issued by the Government on 15.05.2018. The past rationalization exercises were implemented only for the Power Sector. The methodology formulated in 2020 on linkage rationalization / swapping covers the Power as well as Non-Regulated Sector (NRS) and coal swapping with imported coal has also been permitted.

5. Quality and Third Party Sampling:

Highest importance is accorded by the Government on the issue of quality of coal supplied by CIL / SCCL. To address the concerns of consumers (Power Utilities) regarding coal quality, a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Third Party Sampling of coal has been introduced in 2015 at the loading end to ensure the quality of coal supplied by the coal companies, for which Central Institute for Mining and Fuel Research (CIMFR, a CSIR institution) has been engaged jointly by coal companies and power sector. Subsequently, Quality Council of India (QCI) was engaged by Coal India Limited on nomination basis for this purpose for Non-Power Sector. As a part of reform process by the Government and with a view to expand the base of Third Party Sampling, other reputed Third Party Sampling agencies besides CIMFR are being engaged for quality sampling of coal and the consumers are free to take the services from any of the Third Party Sampling agencies. Hiring of other Third Party Sampling agencies will set up higher benchmarks in sampling exercise due to competition among the different agencies. Besides CIMFR and QCI, other Third Party Sampling agencies engaged are, M/s SGS India Pvt. Ltd and M/s Mitra SK Pvt. Ltd. Further TPSAs would now be empaneled by PFCL for both Power & Non-Power sector.

Coal India Limited has assigned the sampling work to CIMFR, QCI, SGS & S K Mitra for 643 MT, 215 MT, 4.00 MT & 24.00 MT respectively. Singareni Colleries Company Limited (SCCL) has assigned to CIMFR & IICT for carrying out sampling of 52.5 MT for Power sector and 0.238 MT for Non-Power sector respectively.

6. E- Auction**:**

In the past, coal distribution through e-auction was introduced with a view to provide access to coal for such consumers who are not able to source coal through the available institutional mechanisms for reasons like the seasonality of coal requirement, limited requirement of coal not warranting long term linkage etc. A fresh scheme of e-auction was introduced with the National Coal Distribution Policy, 2007 which provided that around 10% of estimated annual production of Coal India Limited would be offered under e-auction and the quantity to be offered under e-auction would be reviewed from time to time. This quantity was increased to 20% of the annual coal production of Coal India Limited from the year 2017-18. Coal India Limited was conducting e-auctions under 5 different e-auction windows, out of which some of the windows were sector specific.

In 2022, Government has approved a new mechanism for e-auction of coal by the coal companies. The erstwhile sectoral e-auction windows of Coal India Limited has been done away with and henceforth, all the non-linkage coal of the coal companies is sold through one e-auction window of Coal India Limited / Singareni Collieries Company Limited.

7. Distribution of coal through State Nominated Agencies (SNAs)

The medium and the small scale industries whose requirement is less than 10000 tons per annum are required to take coal through the State Nominated Agencies under the New Coal Distribution Policy (NCDP), 2007. An aggregate of eight million ton of coal per annum is earmarked for distribution to small scale, medium scale and others industries and the same is being divided amongst various States/UTs depending on the past trends.

B. Initiatives of Ministry of Coal for Import Substitution:

Most of the requirement of coal in the country is met through indigenous production / supply. The focus of the Government is on increasing the domestic production of coal and to eliminate non-essential import of coal in the country. Other measures taken by the Government to substitute coal imports are as under:

i. The ACQ has been increased upto 100% of the normative requirement, in the cases where the ACQ was either reduced to 90% of normative requirement (non-coastal) or where the ACQ was reduced to 70% of normative requirement (coastal power plants). Increase in the ACQ would result in more domestic coal supplies, thereby, reducing the import dependency.

ii. Under the provisions of Para B (viii) (a) of SHAKTI Policy, coal linkage is provided for short term for sale of power generated through that linkage in Day Ahead Market (DAM) through Power Exchanges or in short term through a transparent bidding process through DEEP portal. In addition, with the amendment to the NRS linkage auction policy introduced in 2020, the tenure of coking coal linkages in the NRS linkage auction has been revised for a period upto 30 years. The coal offered for short term to the Power Plants under the amended provisions of SHAKTI Policy as well as increase in the tenure of the coking coal linkages in the Non-Regulated Sector linkage auction for a period upto 30 years is expected to have a positive impact towards coal imports substitution.

iii. Government has decided in 2022 that the coal to meet the full PPA requirement of all the existing linkage holders of Power Sector shall be made available by the coal companies irrespective of the trigger level and Annual Contracted Quantity levels. Thus, decision of the Government of meeting the full PPA requirement of the linkage holders of the Power Sector shall reduce the dependence on the imports.

iv. An Inter - Ministerial Committee (IMC) has been constituted in the Ministry of Coal on 29.05.2020 for the purpose of coal import substitution. The Representatives from Ministry of Power, Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Shipping, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Steel, Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), Department for Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade (DPIIT), Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Coal Companies and Ports are members of this IMC. 9 meetings of the IMC have been held so far. On the directions of the IMC, an Import Data System has been developed by Ministry of Coal to enable the Ministry to track the imports of coal. Efforts are taken to ensure more domestic supplies of coal. Thus, the entire substitutable imported coal should be met by the country and no import other than very essential should happen.

C. New policy initiatives under coal distribution during 2022

i. **New sub-sector under the Policy for Auction of coal linkages of Non-Regulated Sector (NRS):-** A new Sub-sector '*Production of Syn-Gas leading to coal gasification*' has been created in 2022 under the NRS linkage auctions in order to encourage coal gasification technology so that new consumers requiring coal for coal gasification are incentivized. This will also mitigate the adverse impacts of the conventional use of coal on the environment.

ii. **Single window for e-auction of coal**:- Government has recently approved a new mechanism for e-auction of coal by the coal companies. The erstwhile sectoral e-auction windows of Coal India Limited has been done away with and henceforth, all the non-linkage coal of the coal companies would be sold through one e-auction window of Coal India Limited / Singareni Collieries Company Limited. This single e-auction window will cater to all the Sectors viz. Power & Non Regulated Sector including traders. Therefore, coal of any particular grade would be sold in the market to all the consumers at one rate (One Nation - One Coal Grade, One Rate). A single e-auction window would enable the coal companies to sell coal through the market discovered price mechanism and thus, implementing this policy will lead to the removal of Market distortions. It shall also increase operational efficiencies and lead to an increase in domestic coal demand by efficiency in domestic coal market.

iii. **Amendment to NCDP**: To promote optimum utilization of coal resources in the national interest, enabling provisions has been made by way of amendment to the New Coal Distribution Policy (NCDP), 2007 in 2022, in order to allow the coal produced from Closed / Abandoned / Discontinued mines of CIL / SCCL to be sold through a transparent and objective manner as per the guidelines issued by Ministry of Coal from time to time.

iv. **Coal linkages for gasification plants of the coal companies:** Government has also approved in 2022 that CIL / SCCL may provide long term allotment of coal to their own gasification plants at prices as may be decided by the coal company. This move will encourage the coal gasification technology in the country and will help in early establishment of this new use of coal.

D. Details of Coal production and despatch:

Coal Production

During 2022-23, actual Raw Coal Production is 893.08 Million Tonnes (MT) against the Annual production Target of 911.00 MT. The Company-wise details of coal production from CIL, SCCL and Others are given below

(In MT)

COMPANY WISE COAL PRODUCTION							
Company	2021-22		Achievement	Growth	2022-23 (Provisional)		
	Annual Target	Actual			Annual Target	Actual	Achievement
CIL	670.000	622.634	92.93%	4.43%	700.000	703.21	100.45%
SCCL	68.000	65.022	95.62%	28.55%	70.000	67.14	95.91%
Captive	99.000	85.718	86.58%	35.74%	130.000	116.55	89.65%
Others	11.000	4.837	43.97%	-21.13%	11.000	6.17	56.09%
Total	**848.00**	**778.211**	**91.77%**	**8.68%**	**911.00**	**893.08**	**98.03%**

Coal Dispatch

During 2022-23, actual Raw Coal dispatched is 877.74 MT against the Annual Target of 911.00 MT. The Company-wise details of coal production from CIL, SCCL and Others are given below:

(In MT)

COMPANY WISE COAL DISPATCH							
Company	2021-22		Achievement	Growth	2022-23 (Provisional)		
	Annual Target	Actual			Annual Target	Actual	Achievement
CIL	740.000	661.741	89.42%	15.36%	700.000	694.92	99.27%
SCCL	68.000	65.533	96.37%	35.08%	70.000	66.71	95.3%
Captive	99.000	87.076	87.96%	39.05%	130.000	109.92	84.55%
Others	11.000	4.863	44.21%	-20.53%	11.000	6.18	56.18%
Total	**918.000**	**819.213**	**89.24%**	**18.57%**	**911.00**	**877.74**	**96.34%**

Sector wise Raw Coal Dispatch- CIL (Provisional)

(In MT)

Sector	FY 2022-23	FY 2021-22	Growth
Steel *	3.28	2.39	37%
Power (Utility)**	586.59	540.57	9%
Power(Captive) ***	39.40	33.23	19%
Cement	3.73	3.35	12%
Others	61.70	82.34	-25%
CIL ****	694.70	661.89	5%

* includes coking coal feed to washeries, direct feed and blendable to steel plants
** includes non-coking coal feed to washery and Bina Deshaling Plant for beneficiation and special forward e-auction to power
*** Captive Power includes despatches to fertilizer sector
**** excludes colliery consumption

Sector Wise Coal Dispatch - SCCL

(in MT)

Sector	FY 2022-23	FY 2021-22	Growth
Power (Utility)	54.97	53.50	2.75%
Power (CPP)	3.20	3.18	0.63%
Cement	3.21	2.99	7.36%
Sponge Iron/CDI	0.41	0.25	64.00%
Others	4.90	5.61	- 12.66%
Total : SCCL	66.69	65.53	1.77%

P&S-II

Section

1. The details of formulation of policies / methodologies under CM (SP) Act, 2015 and administration of these Acts / Rules.

(a) Administration of CM (SP) Act, 2015 and CM (SP) Rules, 2014 is being done by P&S-II Section.

(b) So, far 5 methodologies were approved by CCEA for allocation of Coal Mines under CM (SP) Act, 2015. Details are as follows:-

(i) Methodology for fixing Floor/Reserve Price for Auction and Allotment of Coal Mines /Blocks was approved by CCEA on 24.12.2014 and order was issued on 26.12.2014. Salient features of the Methodology are as under:

- Methodology for Fixing Floor/Reserve Price for auction and allotment of coal mines for Non-regulated Sectors (NRS) like Steel, Sponge Iron, Cement, Captive Power etc.
- Floor Price will be calculated based on Intrinsic Value to be calculated by computing its Net Present Value (NPV) on Discounted Cash Flow (DCF) method.
- The extant notified price of CIL will be taken into account for computing NPV.
- Floor Price shall not be less the Rs. 150 per tonne
- Fixed Reserve Price of Rs. 100 per tonne for coal mines/blocks to be allotted to the Government Companies for specified end use.
- Reverse bidding for fixing ceiling price of coal mines/blocks to be auctioned for generation capacity having cost plus PPAs or for generation capacity having tariff bid based PPAs.

(ii) Methodology for fixing upfront payment and reserve price for allotment of coal mines/ blocks for sale of coal to PSUs under CM (SP) Act, 2015 was approved by CCEA on 16.12.2015 and order was issued on 08.01.2016. Salient features of the Methodology are as under:

- Methodology for Fixing Upfront Payment and Reserve Price for allotment of coal mines/blocks for Sale of Coal to PSUs under CM (SP) Act, 215
- Upfront payment will be calculated based on Intrinsic Value to be calculated by computing its Net Present Value (NPV) on Discounted Cash Flow (DCF) method.
- The extant notified price of CIL will be taken into account for computing NPV.
- A reserve price equivalent to the amount of the royalty on coal as per prevalent rate shall be payable on per tonne basis to the relevant coal bearing State Government as per actual production of coal by the successful allottee.

(iii) Methodology for auction for coal mines/blocks for sale of coal under the provisions of the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 and the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 has been approved by the Government on 20.02.2018 and Order has been issued on 27.02.2018. Salient features of the Methodology are as under:

- Bid Parameter: The auction will be an ascending forward auction whereby the bid parameter will be the price offer in Rs./tonne which will be paid to the State Government on the actual production of coal. The bidder who submits the highest price offer (Final Price Offer) shall be the Successful Bidder.
- Floor Price: The floor price shall be unit ratio in terms of Rs. per tonne basis, determined on the basis of intrinsic value of the coal mine, based on Discounted Cash Flow (DCF) method.
- Sale and/or Utilization of Coal: There shall be no restriction on the sale and/or utilization of coal from the coal mine. The Successful Bidder shall be free to sell coal in any manner as may

be decided by the Successful Bidder including sale to affiliates and related parties, utilize coal for captive consumption and export of coal.

- Flexibility in Coal Production: Successful Bidder shall have certain degree of flexibility to manage its production depending on the market scenario and will be allowed to reduce / increase its production.
- Annual Adjustment of the Final Price Offer (including windfall gains, if any): In order to capture the potential revenue upside, including windfall gains (if any), the Final Price Offer (Rs./tonne) shall be considered as base for the year of bidding with yearly adjustment linked to the Wholesale Price Index – coal (of relevant grade) as published by GOI, Ministry of Commerce and Industry (website: www.eaindustry.nic.in) subject to the condition that such figure shall not at any time be less than the Final Price Offer.
- Foreign Direct Investment: 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) through automatic route is being allowed in coal mining activities including associated processing infrastructure.
- Washing of Coal: Washing of coal by the Successful Bidder should be as per extant guidelines of M/o Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

(iv) Methodology for allowing allocatees of coal mines for specified end use or own consumption to sell up to 25% of actual production on ROM basis in open market under the CM (SP) Act, 2015 & MM (DR) Act, 1957 has been approved by CCEA on 19.02.2019 and order has been issued on 07.03.2019. Salient features of the Methodology are as under:

- For coal mines earmarked for specified end uses or own consumption, the allocatees are allowed to sell upto 25% of actual coal production in open market.
- In case of auctions, the successful bidder shall be required to pay an additional premium of 15% of its final bid price on per tonne basis, for the actual quantity of coal sold in open market. The additional premium will be over and above the final bid price.
- In case of allotments, the successful allottee shall be required to pay an additional reserve price of 15% of the Reserve Price, for the actual quantity of coal sold in open market. The additional reserve price will be over and above the Reserve Price.
- In case of allocate is not able to use a minimum 75% of actual production in specified end use plant or own consumption for any unavoidable reason, beyond the control of allocatees, any excess coal out of such 75% of actual production will have to be mandatorily sold by the allocattee to CIL at CIL notified price less 15% of such CIL notified price as per existing conditions.

(v) Methodology for auction of coal mines/ blocks for sale of coal under the CM (SP) Act, 2015 & MM (DR) Act, 1957 has been approved by CCEA on 20.05.2020 and order has been issued on 28.05.2020 read with Orders dated 24.11.2021 and 31.10.2022. Salient features of the Methodology are as under:

- Based on Revenue sharing mechanism.
- Floor percentage at 4%; bid increment in multiples of 0.5% upto revenue share of 10% & thereafter, in multiples of 0.25.
- Applicable to fully explored as well as partially explored coal blocks under the CM (SP) Act, 2015 and MM (DR) Act, 1957.
- Upfront amount is based on value of estimated geological reserves. i.e. 0.25% of value of estimated geological resources upto a maximum of Rs.100 crores for GR upto 200 MT and 500 crores for GR above 200 MT. Further, *vide* Order dated 31.10.2022, upfront amount has been reduced to 0.20 % of estimated geological reserve from 0.25% of value of estimated geological reserve and for mines having Geological Reserves upto 200 MT, the upper ceiling of Upfront amount has been reduced to Rs. 75 Cr. from 100 Crores.
- The upfront amount is payable in four equal instalments and the amount so paid is adjustable against revenue share payable.

- Successful Bidder to pay monthly revenue share to be determined as a product of (i) % revenue share quoted, (ii) total quantity of coal on which royalty is payable during the month and (iii) notional or actual price whichever is higher.
- Incentives for early production and for gasification and liquefaction of coal.
- Exploitation of CBM is allowed.
- There shall be no restriction on the sale and/ or utilisation of coal from the coal mine. The successful bidder shall be free to sell coal in any manner as may be decided by the successful bidder including sale to affiliates and related parties, utilise coal for any purpose including but not limited to captive consumption, gasification, liquefaction and export of coal.
- More flexibility in coal production schedule.
- Provides for relinquishment of coal block by the successful bidder of partially explored coal mine.
- Development of National Coal Index; to be published bi-monthly.
- The CCEA approved methodology dated 27.02.2018 for auction of coal mines for sale of coal shall stand modified to the extent covered in the proposal

(c) Apart from above, 01 Methodology was approved by Hon'ble Minister of Coal as under:

(i) Methodology to provide the coal block allottee PSU's of Power Sector with some flexibility in utilization of coal extracted from the coal mines allotted under the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 for optimum utilization of coal mine for the same end uses in the public interest and to achieve cost efficiencies was issued on 22.09.2017. Salient features of the methodology are as under:

- Methodology has been formulated for arrangement (s)/agreements (s) that may be entered between a PSU which has been allotted coal mine(s) under the provisions of CM (SP) Act, 2015 on the one hand and "other PSU" which has either been allotted coal mine(s) or granted coal linkage(s) for same end uses on the other.
- Scope of such arrangement/agreement may include transfer of coal by the PSU to other PSU in lieu of coal or power generated from such coal.
- Arrangement for optimum utilization of coal mine with a company which is not a successful bidder or allottee or has not been granted coal linkage(s) is not allowed as such an arrangement was not permissible as per the CM (SP) Act, 2015.
- Overall objective should be to reduce the cost of power.
- Before making an application to the Ministry of Coal, both the parties to the arrangement should categorically certify that such arrangement would result in optimum utilisation of coal mine, is in public interest and to achieve cost efficiencies.
- The application for the proposed arrangement(s)/ agreement(s) would be examined by a Technical Committee (TC) that may be constituted or a Transaction Advisor (TA) that may be appointed for the purpose. The report containing recommendations of TC/TA shall be sent to MoP for comments. Upon receiving the comments/recommendation from MoP, MoC shall take a decision on the proposed arrangement(s)/agreement(s).
- CERC/SERC while determining tariff, shall ensure that the benefits of such arrangements are passed on to the consumers.

(d) Extracts of consolidated FDI policy circulated by DPIIT *vide* circular dated 17.12.2020, the FDI provisions for coal mining are given below:-

Sector/Activity	**% of Equity/ FDI Cap**	**Entry Route**
5.2.3.2 **Coal & Lignite** (1) Coal & Lignite mining for captive consumption by power projects, iron & steel and cement units and other eligible	100%	Automatic

<table>
<tr><td>activities permitted under and subject to the provisions of Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 and the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957.

(2) Setting up coal processing plants like washeries subject to the condition that the company shall not do coal mining and shall not sell washed coal or sized coal from its coal processing plants in the open market and shall supply the washed or sized coal to those parties who are supplying raw coal to coal processing plants for washing or sizing.

(3) For sale of coal, coal mining activities including associated processing infrastructure subject to the provisions of Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 and the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 as amended from time to time and other relevant Acts on the subject.</td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">5.2.3.3.2 OTHER CONDITIONS
(iii) “Associated Processing Infrastructure" as contained at Para 5.2.3.2 above includes coal washery, crushing, coal handling, and separation (magnetic and nonmagnetic)</td></tr>
</table>

NA Section

Question 1.The details of Auction process and allotment of coal block under CM(SP) Act, 2015 and rules made there-under; settlement of liabilities of prior allottees as per the Act.
Reply. **Auction Process:**

Auction of commercial mining on revenue sharing mechanism from 5 coal bearing states (Jharkhand, MP, Maharashtra, Odisha and Chhattisgarh) was launched on 18.06.2020 by Hon'ble Prime Minister. During this Tranche, 20 coal mines were successfully auctioned. Second round of commercial auctions was launched on March 25, 2021, where 67 coal mines were put up for auction out of which 12 coal mines have been successfully auctioned. Third round was launched on October 12, 2021, where 88 coal mines were offered, and 16 coal mines have been auctioned. In the fourth round 99 coal mines were put up for auction on December 16, 2021, out of which 8 coal mines have been auctioned. The fifth round of commercial auctions was launched on March 30, 2022, and a total of 109 coal mines were put up for auction of which 12 have been successfully auctioned. The sixth round of commercial coal mines auction was launched on November 03, 2022, where 133 coal mines have been offered of which 25 coal mines have been successfully auctioned. Single bids were received for 5 coal mines for which second attempt of 6th round was launched on March 29, 2023. The seventh round of commercial coal blocks auction was launched on 29th March 2023 where 101 coal mines have been offered. The pre-bid meeting for the seventh round of auctions and second attempt of sixth round of auctions was held on 12th April 2023, and the last date for bid submission is 30th May 2023.

Hence, auction process of 93 coal blocks have been successfully completed under Commercial coal mining (for sale of coal) till date by Nominated Authority. Of these 93 coal blocks, 6 coal mines have been terminated and from remaining 87 coal blocks, Vesting Orders have been executed for 49 coal blocks,CMDPA have been signed for 29 blocks and in case of 9 blocks ,CMDPA is still pending.

Allocation Status (allocated under CMSP Act, 2015)

The allocation of 204 coal mines de-allocated by Hon'ble Supreme Court is now made under the provisions of the Coal Mines (special Provisions) Act, 2015. Under the provisions of CMSP Act, a total of 131 coal mines have been allocated till date. Out of this, allocation of 22 coal mines have been cancelled. Out of remaining 109 coal mines, 56 coal mines have been allocated through Auction whereas 53 have been allocated through Allotment. Out of 56 auctioned mines, 19 mines have got mine opening permission (17 under production). Out of 53 allotted mines, 32 mines have got mine opening permission (27 under production)

Status of 109 coal mines allocated under CMSP Act, 2015 is as under:-

S. No.	Mode of Allocation	End Use "Power"	End Use "NRS"	Sale of Coal	Total	Mines having mine opening permission	Non-operational mines	Mines under production
1	**Auction**	**5**	**20**	**31**	**56**	**19**	**37**	**17**
2	**Allotment**	**38**	**2**	**13**	**53**	**32**	**21**	**27**
Total		**43**	**22**	**44**	**109**	**51**	**58**	**44**

Allocation Status of coal mines allocated under MMDR Act, 1957

Total of 23 coal mines have been allocated under MMDR Act. Status of these 23 coal blocks is tabulated below:

S. No.	Mode of Allocation	End Use "Power"	End Use "NRS"	Sale of Coal	Total	Mines having mine opening permission	Non-operational mines	Mines under production
1	**Auction**	**0**	**0**	**18**	**18**	**0**	**18**	**0**
2	**Allotment**	**5**	**0**	**1**	**6**	**0**	**6**	**0**
Total		**5**	**0**	**19**	**24**	**0**	**24**	**0**

Question 2. Details of monitoring developments of PBG, Production compliance to CMDPA /Allotment Agreement /Act.

Answer: A Scrutiny Committee has been constituted to examine the submissions/replies to the Show Cause Notices towards non-achievement of milestones/deviation from terms and conditions of CMDPA/Allotment Agreement on case-to-case basis. So far, 19 Scrutiny Committee meetings have been held. Penal Action in form of PBG appropriation is being taken based on the recommendation of the Committee and approval of competent authority. On the recommendation of the committee, the amount of Bank Guarantee for which invocation orders were issued- Rs.1,959.239 Crore out of which Rs. 975.53 Crore has been appropriated. Further, due to termination of allocation of mines, Sanctioned Order were issued for an appropriation of Rs. 1616.88 Crore, out of which Rs.394.735 Crores has been appropriated.

Question 3. How many matters are under process and examining relating to HPEC meeting and National Coal Index.

Answer: **NIL**

Question 4. Brief Note on Implementation report of HLC

Answer: Updated last Quarterly Report which is to be forwarded to NITI Aayog enclosed as **Annexure A** (under process for approval of competent authority)**.**

CA Section

Question 1. Give brief note on Coal Regulator

Answer:-

- The Coal industry is characterized by a structure of near monopoly producers. This scenario has led to a debate on the necessity of establishment of an independent regulatory authority for effective monitoring and regulating the sector operations.
- The issue has been considered by many a committee and expert group like Integrated Energy Policy, Working Group on Coal for XI Plan, The Sankar Committee, The Energy Coordination Committee etc.
- Accordingly, ASCI, Hyderabad was appointed as a consultant and after extensive consultations with all the stake holders, a draft Coal Regulatory Authority Bill, was prepared.
- The Cabinet in its meeting dated 10.05.2012 considered the matter and decided to refer the same to a Group of Ministers (GOM).
- GoM recommended to submit the draft Bill for obtaining approval of the Cabinet. The proposal of draft Bill was approved by the Cabinet on 27.06.2013.
- The Coal Regulatory Authority Bill, 2013 was introduced in the LokSabha on 13.12.2013, however after the dissolution of the 15th LokSabha, the Coal Regulatory Authority Bill, 2013 lapsed.
- In the meantime a proposal for setting up a non-statutory Coal Regulatory authority for coal sector having Advisory Role through an executive order was approved by Competent Authority on 20.02.2014. Thereafter the Government resolution was published in the Gazette of India on 04.03.2014. The above non-statutory Coal Regulatory authority for coal sector having Advisory Role still exists as on today.
- As approved by Hon'ble Minister of Coal, an administrative order has been issued from BA Section to vest certain regulatory functions to coal controller, in an advisory capacity, as envisaged in the Government Resolution dated 04.03.2014 for a non-statutory Coal Regulatory Authority.
- Further, now a proposal to actualize the existing Non-statutory coal regulator by subsuming CCO and allocation of Certain powers of NA section to create an Independent and specialized institution is under consideration

(i) Brief Note on MoU with CIL & NLCIL and its monitoring including CAPEX and Royalty and DMF issues on coal & Lignite & Pricing of Coal and Lignite

A. Brief on MoU with CIL & NLCIL and its monitoring

- ✓ CA section is dealing with the yearly MoU between CIL/NLCIL and Ministry of Coal as per DPE guidelines.
- ✓ From FY 21-22 onwards MOU is to be submitted and monitored online for which DPE has prepared an online Dashboard.
- ✓ As per the new DPE guidelines, the MoU format for entire sector has been standardized with introduction of certain new paramerter. The earlier discretion given to CPSE's for proposing parameters as per earlier MoU guidelines has now been removed. Further the targets under the new MoU template shall automatically be decided on best of 5 year basis subject to some moderation, if any, as decided by IMC.
- ✓ MoU of CIL & NLCIL for FY 2022-23 has been signed.
- ✓ Evaluation of CIL& NLCIL MoU 21-22 has been done by DPE and accepted by CIL and NLCIL

B. Royalty issues on coal & Lignite

✓ Section 9(3) of the Mines and Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, provides that the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, amend the Second Schedule (which specifies rates of royalty) so as to enhance or reduce the rate at which royalty shall be payable in respect of any mineral with effect from such date as may be specified in the notification, **provided that the Central Government shall not enhance the rate of royalty in respect of any mineral more than once during any period of three year.**

✓ The rates of royalty on coal and lignite were last revised w.e.f. 10.05.2012 on the recommendation of a study group constituted under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary, MOC after due consultation with all the stakeholders. As per the Gazette notification dated 10.05.2012, the rate of royalty on coal (except the State of West Bengal) was revised at 14% ad-valorem. The rate of royalty on lignite was revised as 6% ad-valorem. Rate of royalty on coal for the State of West Bengal was in the range of Rs 2.50 per ton to Rs 7.00 per ton for different group of coal.

✓ A study Group had been constituted on 21.07.2014 to consider revision of royalty on coal and lignite under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal comprising of members from various stakeholders.

✓ In the meeting of the Study Group on revision of rates of Royalty on Coal and Lignite held on 05.02.2018 at New Delhi after considering various factors, Study Group recommended the following :-

- No change in rates of royalty on coal and may be kept unchanged @ 14 % (Fourteen percent) ad-valorem.
- No change in rates of royalty on coal produced in the State of West Bengal.
- No change in rates of royalty on lignite.

✓ The final recommendation of the Study group was accepted by the Central Government in March, 2020

C. DMF on coal and lignite

i. Section 9B of the amended MMDR Act 1957 provides for establishment of a trust, as a non-profit body, to be called the District Mineral Foundation in any district affected by mining related operations to be notified by the State Government. It also mandates the Central Government to prescribe by notification, the rate of contribution to DMF.

ii. **Ministry of Mines** notified the rates of contribution to the DMF and date of its effect i.e **12 th January, 2015** vide Notification No. GSR 715(E) dated 17.9.2015.

iii. The rate of contribution to DMF prescribed by Ministry of Mines is:- (i) 10% of the royalty in respect of mining lease granted on or after 12th January, 2015; and (ii) 30 % of the royalty paid in respect of mining lease granted before 12th January, 2015.

iv. As per Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules 1961, Ministry of Coal has been allocated the work of administration of MMDR Act, 1957 and other Union laws in so far as, the said Act and laws relates to coal and lignite and sand for stowing, business incidental to such administration including questions concerning various states.

v. Accordingly, Ministry of Coal also notified the same rate of contribution vide notification no. GSR 792(E), dated 20.10.2015 in r/o coal and lignite and sand for stowing clearly indicating the date from which the contribution to DMF is to be made i.e., with effect from the date of establishment of DMF by the State Government or the date of coming into force of the said notification i.e. 20.10.2015, whichever is later.

vi. The above Notification was again examined keeping in view the advice of department of Legal Affairs tendered to Ministry of Mines with respect retrospective effect of their Notification dated 17.09.2015.The gist of the opinion of Department of Legal Affairs is as under :-

"….sub-section (6) of Section 9B does not prescribe any specific date for accruing liability under Section 9B. In the absence of any specific date prescribed under sub-section (6) of Section 9(b) of the Amendment Act, 2015, liability for DMF contribution will accrue from the date of coming into force of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation)

Amendment Act, 2015, i.e.. 12.01.2015 as mentioned in sub-section (2) of section 1 of the Amendment Act, 2015."

vii. Accordingly, Ministry of Coal amended the Notification dated 20.10.2015 and made its effect at par with Ministry of Mines' Notification i.e. w.e.f. 12.01.2015 vide notification no. 837 dated 31.08.2016.

viii. The retrospective effect of both the notifications of MOC and MoM were challenged by various affected parties before various High Court, which were finally transferred to Supreme Court on the direction of Supreme Court. The Hon'ble Supreme court has finally passed its judgement dated 13.10.2017 in all the bunched matters interalia directing that t**he notification dated 31 st August, 2016 issued by the Central Government (MOC) is invalid and is struck down being ultra vires the rule making power of the Central Government under the MMDR Act.**

ix. Accordingly the direction of the Supreme Court dated 13.10.2017 was circulated to all concerned for compliance and informing therein that in respect of coal, lignite and sand for stowing, the holder of a mining lease or a prospecting licence-cum-mining lease shall pay the contribution to the DMF from 20th October, 2015 or the date of establishing the DMF, whichever is later in accordance with notification No. GSR 792(E) dated 20.10.2015.

D. Pricing of Coal

- The coal price has been completely deregulated w.e.f 01.01.2000. After deregulation, Coal India Ltd has been fixing the run of mine prices for all the grades/varieties of coal produced by its subsidiary companies including NEC. The prices are fixed by Coal India limited after its approval from Board of Directors.
- The pricing is an operational decision of Coal India Limited and the Government does not play any role in it.
- There is no fixed time interval between two general coal price revisions and the ROM prices of coal are fixed from time to time taking into consideration the following:

    - Increase in input cost for production ofcoal
    - The upward movement of AICPI and WPI
    - Capacity of the market to absorb the coal price
    - Demand and supply scenario
    - Landed cost of imported coal
    - Financial viability of new coal projects excepting cost plus projects

E. Pricing of Lignite

The guidelines for determining transfer price of lignite were used to be issued by Ministry of Coal in every five years. However for the period starting from 1.4.2019, Ministry of Coal vide letter dated 24.6.19 intimated that NLCIL Board in consultation with the stakeholders can decide lignite pricing at such frequency as the situation may demands. However, CERC vide its notification dated 19.02.21 for the period 2019-2024 has decide to fix the lignite/Coal prices for integrated captive mines for power producers.

F. CAPEX - Investment by CIL & NLCIL

Position of capex achievement as on March 2023 for both CIL and NLCIL is tabulated herein below:

Particulars	**CIL**	**NLCIL**
Capex target (2022 - 23)	**16500**	2920
Achievement till Mar 2022	17609.13	3010.52
%Achievement till Mar '22	**106.72%**	**103.10%**

Capex target (2021-22)	14685	2061
Achievement till March 2022	15400.96	2541.76
%Achievement till Mar ′22	**104.88%**	**123.33%**

CPIAM Section

Question1. Give brief note on Development of transportation infrastructure-

1.1 Development of infrastructure for transportation of coal includes-

- o Development of Rail infrastructure
- o Development of Roads (excluded since 2021-22)

1.2 Under the Central Sector Scheme, under sub-scheme of "Development of Transportation Infrastructure in Coalfields (DTIC)" of "Conservation & Safety of Coal Mines" scheme, Government provides assistance for development of infrastructure for transportation in coalfields. Details of assistance given under this scheme are as under-

Year	Budget Head	(Rs. in Crore)						
		BE	RE	Actual Approved by CCDAC	Spill Over from previous year	Total Require-ment	Fund released by MoC	Spill over to next year
2012-13	DTIC	50.00	40.00	72.21	13.27	85.48	40.00	45.48
2013-14		50.00	75.00	58.79	45.48	104.27	76.02	28.25
2014-15		75.00	75.00	73.66	28.25	101.91	75.00	26.91
2015-16		75.00	75.00	257.13	26.91	284.04	75.00	209.04
2016-17		70.00	180.00	277.56	209.04	486.60	180.00	306.60
2017-18		299.50	299.50	201.33	306.61	507.94	299.50	208.44
2018-19		140.00	140.00	0.00	208.50	208.50	140.00	68.50
2019-20		130.50	90.00	159.38	68.50	227.88	80.99	146.89
2020-21		84.48	50.23	0.00	146.89	146.89	45.15	101.74
2021-22		65.48	65.48	0.00	101.74	101.74	58.22	43.52
2022-23		50.04	50.04	140.42	43.52	183.94	45.04	138.90
2023-24		72.00						

1.3 Year-wise achievement of DTIC is as under-

Year	No. of Projects			Total Amount approved by CCDAC	Amount Disbursed by MoC
	Rail	Road	Total	Cost in Rs. Cr.	Rs. in Cr.
2014-15	3	16	19	73.66	75.00
2015-16	5	11	16	257.13	75.00
2016-17	3	12	15	277.56	180.00
2017-18	4	5	9	201.33	299.50

2018-19*	0	0	0	0	140.00
2019-20	5	12	19	159.38	80.99
2020-21*	0	0	0	0.00	45.15
2021-22*	0	0	0	0	58.22
2022-23*	0	0	0	0	45.04

* Payment for spill over

1.4 Development of transportation infrastructure In CIL/SCCL/NLCIL

CIL has embarked on a growth trajectory to meet the energy demands of the nation and has prepared a "Vision 2030" document outlining this roadmap. The growth potential has been identified both in new mining Greenfield projects and in the expansion of the existing brownfield projects. Keeping this in view, CIL has invested in rail infrastructure projects in a big way, both in the Greenfield and Brownfield areas, to have a seamless evacuation system for this projected production. In order to develop transport infrastructure for Coal Evacuation, the following actions are in progress:

A. Development and construction of Rail Links in Coalfields:
   a. on Deposit Basis
   b. on JV Mode Basis
   c. Railway Sanctioned projects which are essential for evacuation of Coal.
   d. Development, construction and maintenance of Rail Sidings (Existing/ New)

B. First Mile connectivity Projects.

A. Development and construction of Rail Links in Coalfields:

S. No	Name of project	Category (Centre/State)	Project Status of connectivity infrastructure	Length	Estimated Cost (Cr Rs)	Anticipated Timeline	Implantation Status
1	MCRL Ph-I Angul -Balram Line	IR/MCRL/JV	New Line	14 Km	145	Oct'22	Commissioned
2	MCRL -Ph-II Balram Jharpada-Putagodia Tentuloi Link	IR/MCRL/JV	New Line	54 km	1555	Dec'2025	Under Development
3	Tori Shivpur railway line -Tripling	Cente/CIL	3rd line work	44.37 Km	894	Dec-23	Under Construction
4	Shivpur Kathautia Line	IR/JCRL/SPV	New Line	49 Km	1799	Jun'25	Under Development
5	CERL Ph-I Kharsia-Korichapar-Dharamjaigarh	IR/CERL/SPV	New Line	74 Km	3055	Mar'23	Partial Commissioned

6	CEWRL-Gevera road-Pendra Road Line	IR/CERL/SPV	Doubling	135 Km	4970	Mar'24	Under Development
7	Doubling of Jharsuguda-Barpali-Sardega Rail Link	IR/MCL	Doubling	50.3 Km	3200	Dec'25	Under Construction
8	Doubling from Singrauli to Shaktinagar via Karaila Road	Center/IR	Double line work under progress	45 Km	529	Mar-23	Under Construction
9	Doubling of Singrauli to Mahadiya and Mahadiya to Katni	Center/IR/IRCON	Double line work under progress	260 Km	1768	Mar-24	Under Construction
10	Third line between Barkakana-Barwadih-Garhwa Road	Center/IR/RVNL	3rd line work	291 KM	3406.16	Mar'25	Under Construction
11	Fourth line between Jharsuguda to Bilaspur	Certre/IR	4th line is in progress	206 Km	2135.34	Mar-24	Under Construction
12	DFC- Dadri to Sonenagar & extension upto Koderma	DFCCIL	Eastern DFC	271 Km			Under conceptual stage
13	Third and Fourth Lines from Talcher to Budhapank (10 km) & Third Line from Budhapank to Rajathgarh (124 km)	Centre/IR	3rd & 4th line	134 Km	1983	Mar-24	Under Construction

On Deposit Basis:

1. **Tori- Shivpur Rail link:** 100 MTY capacity.
- Double line Commissioned.
- The 3rd line under construction.
- **Beneficiary Projects:** The proposed railway line will be used for transportation of coal from major projects like Magadh, Amrapali, Pachra and Sanghmitra in North Karanpura Coalfields.

2 **Jharsuguda- Barpali- Sardega**: 52.41 Km @ 34 MTY Capacity

– Commissioned.

- **Beneficiary Projects:** The proposed railway line will be used for transportation of coal from major projects like Kulda, Garjanbahal, Siarmal and Basundhara (W) in IB-Basundhara Coalfields of MCL in Odisha.Total coal evacuation capacity would be @ 65 MTY.

<u>On Rail JV Mode</u>:

3. Chhattisgarh East Rail Ltd, (CERL), a JV Company formed by SECL (64%) IRCON (26%) and Govt of Chhattisgarh (10%) shall execute the work in two phases. Total capacity is @30 MTY.

CERL Phase I:

Kharsia- Dharamjaigarh (74 KM) with spur from Gharghoda to Gare Pelma (28 Km) and 03 feeder lines (29 Km). Peak Traffic: 62 MT, Inflated Mileage 60% for the first five years of operation.

CERL Phase II:

Dharamjaigarh- Korba, 62.5 Km;

Beneficiary Projects: The proposed railway line will be used for transportation of coal from major projects like Chhal, Baroud, Jampali, Bijari, and Gare- Pelma Block in Mand- Raigarh Coalfield of SECL in the State of Chhattisgarh.

4. Chhattisgarh East- West Rail Ltd. (CEWRL) -

Gevra Road-Pendra Road with connectivity to operating and upcoming SECL Mines, 135 Km double line.

Beneficiary Projects: The proposed railway line will be used for transportation of coal from major projects like Gevra, Kusmunda, Dipka, Saraipali, Kartali and Ambika of Korba coalfields of Chhattisgarh.

5. **Mahanadi Coal Rail Limited (MCRL) - A JV** Company formed by MCL (64%) IRCON (26%) and Govt of Chhattisgarh (10%). MCRL shall construct both the inner corridor and outer corridor of Talcher coalfield.

Inner Corridor -

PH-I: Inner Corridor: Angul- Balaram, 13 Km

PH-II: Inner Corridor: Balaram-Putagadia & Jarapada-Putagadia-Tentuloi, 55 Km.

Outer Corridor - Tentuloi- Budhapunk Link, @ 98 Km, Peak Traffic: 63 MT.

Construction of Inner Corridor (PH-I & II):

PH-I (Angul- Balram, 13 Km, Rs 145 Cr.)- Commissioned

PH-II (Balram- Putugadia- Jalpada-Tentuloi, 55 Km) – Under development.

6. Jharkhand Central Rail Limited (JCRL) -

Shivpur Kathautia, 49 Km New BG rail line – Under Development

B. First Mile Connectivity Projects:

With a view to ease the living of people residing in coal mine areas by reducing traffic congestion, road accidents, adverse impacts on environment and health around coal mines of production capacity exceeding 4 MTPA and by enhancing coal handling efficiency through employing alternate transport methods like mechanized conveyor system and computerized loading into railway rakes.

- An integrated approach for eliminating road transportation of coal from major mines

- Eliminating wharf wall loading by pay loaders and limiting non-addressable dispatch through road to a maximum of 10%.
- This entails capacity creation of mechanized conveyor system and computerized loading system (SILOs)

Total Projects: CIL is undertaking 35 first mile connectivity (FMC) project in first phase and 9 FMC projects in 2nd phase. Out of 35 1st phase FMC projects, 7 projects have already been commissioned. SCCL is undertaking 3 FMC projects in 1st phase and 1 FMC project in 2nd phase. 2 FMC project of SCCL has already been commissioned. NLCIL is also undertaking 1 FMC projects.

Question 2. Give brief note on Heavy Earth Moving Machineries policy –

At present, there is no policy on Heavy Earth Moving Machineries issued from MOC. However, concession is given in custom duty on import of the Heavy Earth Moving Machineries. The policy adopted by CIL for procurement of HEMM is as follows:

- Certain High Capacity HEMM like Draglines of all sizes, Dumpers of 120T and above capacity; Dozers of above 410HP capacity; Electric Rope Shovels of 20 CuM and above capacity; Hydraulic Shovels of above 10 CuM capacity are centrally procured at CIL (HQ) and rest of the HEMM are procured by Subsidiary Companies at their end.
- Depending on the value of the tenders, Domestic/Global tenders are issued as per recent Government guidelines.
- The technical specifications are prepared after mapping of products of all major prospective indigenous / foreign manufacturers to ensure wider participation in the tender.
- Before final tender document is issued, a draft tender document is placed in public domain for comments/suggestions of the prospective bidders. Subsequently, a Pre-NIT meet is held where the suggestions/observations of the prospective bidders are discussed and thereafter based on the evaluation of the suggestions/observations of the prospective bidders, the final tender document is issued for participation by all eligible bidders.
- Tender document also has a provision of Pre-bid conference on a scheduled date after issue of tender wherein the clarifications of tender document are issued to the prospective bidders on the issues raised by them. This forum also provides for taking corrective action with regard to tender documents in respect of some major aberrations/discrepancies, if pointed out by the prospective bidders.
- All the tenders have provision for extending preference to 'Make in India' bidders /MSEs/Start Ups as per the extant Government of India directives/guidelines.

- All tenders are processed through e-Procurement Portal developed by NIC. As the Portal is developed on the lines of CPP Portal, it ensures country-wide visibility and a fair and transparent process from end-to-end.

- The Portal provides for online registration of prospective bidders. Upon registration, the bidders are intimated through an auto-alert system whenever a tender is uploaded for supply of goods they have registered for. This ensures that there is no information asymmetry among different bidders.

- There is a provision of issue of 'Trial/Developmental Tenders' for 10% of the total requirement for development of new sources, which not only helps in increasing the competition, but also promotes 'Make in India' initiative of Government of India.

Question 3. How many washeries have been set up during last 5 years?

Ans. 2 coking coal washeries, namely Dahibari and Patherdih 1 with a total capacity of 6.6. MTPY have been commissioned. Status of other 9 coking coal washeries are as under-

Sl No	Subsidiary	Washery	Status	Dt of Completion	Type	Capacity (MTY)
Commissioned (Coking Coal)						
1	BCCL	Dahibari	In operation from Aug'18		Coking	1.6
2		Patherdih-1	In operation from 7.7.20			5.0
Total Commissioned (Coking Coal)						6.6
Upcoming (Coking Coal) – 1st phase						
1	BCCL	Madhuband	Under construction	Feb, 2023	Coking	5.0
2		Patherdih-II		June, 2023		2.5
3		Bhojudih New		March, 2023		2.0
4		Moonidih New	LOA issued on 17.8.22	March, 2026		2.5
5	CCL	New Kathara	Retendering by Jan, 23	May, 2026		3.0
6		Basantpur-Tapin	Bid under evaluation	May, 2026		4.0
7		New Rajrappa	LOA issued on 23.12.22	Sept, 2026		3.0
8		New Sawang	Bid under evaluation	April, 2027		1.5
9		Dhori	Bid under evaluation	April, 2027		3.0
Total Upcoming (Coking Coal)						26.5
Total New (Coking Coal)						33.1
Upcoming (Non-Coking Coal)						
1	MCL	Ib-Valley	Under Construction	March, 23	Non-Coking	10.0
Total Upcoming (Non-Coking Coal)						10.0

The major bottlenecks for setting up of these coal beneficiation plants are mainly Forest, Environmental and other Statutory Clearances as well as acquisition and possession of land.

Question 4. Name of projects Monitoring & Appraisal Mechanisms –

Ans. Projects are being monitored through various mechanisms, which are as under-

A. Monthly Project Review Meeting -

The projects costing above Rs. 500 crore and 3 MTY, listed on PMG Portal and issues listed on Pragati Portal are monitored by Administrative level through Monthly Project Review (MPR) meetings. The meetings are held once in every month under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Coal). The regular review meetings provide scope for resolving pending issues at different levels.

B. PRAGATI Portal –

Pragati meetings chaired by Hon'ble PM on monthly basis. Inter-ministerial issues and issues related to State Governments are reviewed. Thereafter, issues related to state governments are reviewed by Secretary (Coordination), Cabinet secretariat. Pending issues listed on PMG portal are reviewed in the MPR under the chairmanship of Secretary, Coal.

C. PMG Portal - The projects of CIl and NLCIL costing above Rs. 500 crore and 3 MTY are monitored through PMG portal on mile-stone basis. These projects are reviewed by Secretary, DPIIT with representatives of MoC, concerned subsidiaries and concerned state governments. At present, about 65 projects are listed on this portal.

D. OCMS portal- Projects costing above 150 crore of CIL/SCCL/NLCIL are monitored through this portal by MoSPI. At present, 120 projects are being monitored through this portal.

Question 5. Policy on Environmental Clearance/ Forestry Clearance (EC/FC).

Ans.

Environmental Clearance (EC) –

Environmental Clearance (EC) is the procedure to get clearance from the Central Government under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for the 'installation' and 'modification' of various projects including coal projects.

At present, grant of EC is governed by EIA Notifications 2006 and various circulars and amendments made thereunder. The Regulatory Authorities empowered to grant EC for Category-A Projects (>/= 150 Ha for coal) is MoEF&CC and for Category-B projects (5 Ha - 150 Ha for coal) is State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) formed by Central Government.

In all cases of new/expansion projects for mining, an online application is made in Form 1 along with a Pre-feasibility report on PARIVESH Portal for the Project to obtain Terms of Reference (ToR). Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) at MoEF&CC determines detailed and comprehensive Terms of Reference (TOR) based on Form-I addressing all relevant environmental concerns for preparation of an EIA&EMP report.

Based on one season (except non-monsoon) base line data, draft EIA&EMP report is prepared by Project proponent (PP) through QCI-NABET accredited agency and submitted to SPCB for conduction of Public Consultation (PC) (public hearing is part of PC).

Public Consultation is the process by which the concerns of local affected persons and others who have plausible stake in the environmental impact of the project are ascertained taking into account all material concerns in the project. The public hearing is conducted at the site or in its close proximity- district wise. After completion of the public consultation, the applicant addresses all issues raised during this process, and prepares final EIA/EMP.

After preparing final EIA/EMP, the applicant submits online application for grant of EC in Form-II on PARIVESH Portal along with final EIA/EMP, DPR and other necessary documents. Detailed scrutiny of online application (Form-II) and enclosed documents is carried out by the EAC/SEAC in a proceeding to which the applicant is invited for presentation and furnishing necessary clarifications in person or through an authorized representative.

On conclusion of this proceeding, the EAC/SEAC makes categorical recommendations to the regulatory authority for grant of prior environmental clearance on stipulated terms and conditions.

<u>EC in Projects involving forest land:</u> The processing of EC proposal will continue normally. However, the final EC order will be subject to submission of Stage-I FC approval.

<u>EC for Expansion Projects:</u> All applications seeking prior EC for increase in either lease area or production capacity through change in process and or technology is made in Form - I. EAC/SEAC decides on the due diligence necessary including preparation of EIA&EMP report and public consultations and the application is appraised accordingly for grant of environmental clearance.

Since 2006, several circulars have been issued exempting the PP from public hearing in case of expansion of mine capacity (up to 40 %) without involving additional land and change in technology subject to certain conditions. The application is submitted in Form-II along with Addendum EIA&EMP under clause 7(ii) of EIA Notification 2006 for issuance of expansion EC.

<u>Revalidation of ECs obtained under EIA 1994</u>

Vide SO no 1530 (E) dated 06.04.2018, MoEF&CC directed that mining projects which were granted EC under EIA notification, 1994 but not obtained EC for expansion/ modernization/ amendment under EIA notification, 2006 were required to obtain EC under EIA notification, 2006 in pursuance of judgement of Hon'ble Supreme Court and a six month window was provided for submission of such proposals.

All revalidation applications shall be considered by the concerned EAC/SEAC, as the case may be, who shall decide on the due diligence necessary including preparation of EIA&EMP and PC.

Forest Clearance (FC) –

For the use of forest areas for non-forestry purposes such as mining (including underground mining), Forest Clearance (FC) is required as per the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. FC proposals are usually recommended for diversion by State Governments and given a final approval by the MoEF&CC after clearance from the Ministry's Forest Advisory Committee (>40 Ha) or Regional Empowered Committees (upto 40 ha).

Renewal of existing mining lease in forest area also requires prior approval of Central Government. The entire process of forest clearance undergoes approvals in two stages: Stage-I Clearance (In Principle Approval) and Stage-II clearance (Final Approval).

Stage-1 Forest Clearance or In Principal approval

Project proponent submits the proposal for diversion of forest land on PARIVESH Portal in a given format (Form A) along with requisite documents. The entire proposal is vetted at several levels of State Govt. (Nodal Officer, DFO, DC, CCF, and State Secretary) and finally sent to MoEF&CC/Integrated Regional Office (IRO) with recommendations of each level and site inspection reports, wherever necessary.

After recommendation of Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) / Regional Empowered Committee (REC), and approval of the Competent Authority, Stage-1 clearance is accorded along with stipulation of certain terms and conditions, which includes requirement of compensatory afforestation (CA) and submission of NPV (Net Present value of forest land) by the User agency. Stage-1 clearance is uploaded on PARIVESH Portal.

Stage-2 Forest Clearance or Final Approval

Process of Stage-2 Clearance starts, when the State Govt. receives compliance report from the Project Proponent showing fulfilment of all terms and conditions stipulated in Stage-1 clearance, which includes transfer and mutation of non-forest area identified for compensatory afforestation, if any, and transfer of CA and NPV funds in CAMPA (Compensatory Afforestation Planning and Management Authority) account. The submitted compliance report is vetted at all levels of State Govt. (as done in Stage-I) and forwarded to Central Govt. for stage-2 clearance, which is accorded with certain terms and conditions.

<u>Mandatory Requirement of NOC under Forest Rights Act (FRA) 2006</u>

Process of NOC under FRA is started during processing of Stage-1 approval itself by forwarding a copy of proposal to DC. As the process of obtaining NOC involves meetings of each Gram Sabha, it is time consuming. Hence, the requirement of producing NOC has been made mandatory at the time of final approval of Stage-2 FC.

For physical possession of forest land, project proponent submits a compliance report on conditions stipulated in Stage-2 clearance. On being satisfied on the compliance report, State Govt. hand over the forest land.

CCT Section

Question 1. Brief note on exploration and detailed drilling [Exploration for coal and lignite Scheme]:-

1.0 Coal Exploration

- Exploration is the first and foremost step towards ensuring the availability of resources and at the current dispensations it takes years together to bring a particular coal block from exploration stage to production stage. There is considerable time lag involved in the process. Exploration is essentially a precursor to the actual availability of coal resource for exploitation purposes and must be planned well in advance with an eye on the projected demand and supply situation of the country.
- Exploration of coal resources in the country is carried out broadly in two stages i.e Regional (G2&G3) exploration and Detailed (G1) exploration.

➢ **First stage,** Geological Survey of India (GSI) undertake regional exploration with one or two borehole per sq. km for locating potential coal and lignite bearing areas on a regular basis under the funding from the Ministry of Mines, Government of India.

This effort is supplemented by Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd. (MECL), Geological Survey of India, Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Ltd. (CMPDIL) and private agencies through promotional (Regional) exploration under funding from the Ministry of Coal.

➢ **Second stage,** detailed exploration is carried out by CMPDIL, a subsidiary of Coal India Ltd. directly as well as through MECL, State Governments and private agencies for the purpose of mine planning and exploitation of coal resources for meeting the demand of different sectors of the economy.

The detailed exploration in the command area of SCCL is carried out by SCCL itself. Nowadays, many private exploration agencies have also been undertaking detailed exploration in regionally explored coal blocks mainly under the supervision of CMPDIL.

- CMPDIL acts as a nodal agency for disbursement of funds provided by the Ministry of Coal for exploration besides supervising the work of MECL & Private Parties in the area of promotional exploration of coal. Priorities of various projects/ blocks, taken up for detailed exploration, are decided taking into account factors like emerging demand and its locations, availability of infrastructure for coal evacuation and techno-economic feasibility of the mine development including the coal quality.

1.1 <u>PRESENT COAL INVENTORY OF INDIA:</u> The updated resource position of Coal published by GSI as on 1.4.2022 based on present level of exploration is given below:

	(Coal Resource in BT)			
Type of Coal	Proved	Indicated	Inferred	Total
Coking	20.87	12.28	1.95	35.10
Non-Coking	165.64	134.85	24.17	324.65

Tertiary Coal	0.59	0.12	0.94	1.66
Grand Total	**187.11**	**147.25**	**27.05**	**361.41**
Resource up to 600m.	180.31	128.10	20.49	328.90

- Coal extracted as per coal inventory of GSI as on 01.04.2022, since 1950 is 18.08 BT.

❖ **PRESENT STATUS OF COAL EXPLORTAION IN INDIA:**

- It is evident from the preceding sections that there is urgent requirement for intensifying exploration efforts to enhance the availability of measured coal resources for projectization for minable coal blocks.
- As per joint exercise undertaken by CMPDI and GSI, prognosticated coal bearing area of the country has increased from 19400 sq. km to about 32970 Sq. km covering 62 coalfields (43 nos. of Gondwana Coalfields and 19 nos. of Tertiary Coalfields). This has led to an increase of 70% in prognosticated coal bearing area and will lead to expand the coal exploration activities in about 13570 sq. km of the country and in turn, help in meeting the coal appetite of the country in future.
- Out of the additional prognostic area, individual coal blocks will be further carved out after studying the forest type & forest cover, ESZ, DSS and water bodies and prevailing law and order issues. So, identified blocks shall be taken up initially for regional exploration (RE) & based on the outcome of the RE data, detailed exploration will be planned as per the requirement.

- To carve out prognosticated coal bearing area is the central interest of this exercise. Although exploration is a very dynamic activity, the area and status of exploration may change from time to time after exploration findings.
- A summary of the prognosticated coal bearing area along with the updated exploration status has been presented in the table no 1.5.

Table 1.5: Summary of Prognosticated Coal Bearing Areas:

S. No.	Particulars	Approx. Area (sq. km)
1	**Prognosticated coal bearing area at the end of XII Plan period**	**19400**
2	**Revised total Prognosticated coal bearing area**	**32970**
i)	**Area under CIL Command Area**	**7895**
ii)	**Area under SCCL Command Area**	**1669**
iii)	**Area Under (SAIL, TISCO, DVC, etc)**	**64**
iv)	**Non-CIL Area (a+b)**	**23342**
a)	**Blocked Area (A1+A2+A3+A4)**	**6040**
A1)	Explored/Partly Explored	2888
A2)	Under Exploration	959

A3)	Regionally Explored	2131
A4)	Un explored	62
b)	**Un Blocked Area (B1+B2)**	**17302**
B1)	**Regionally Explored (B1a+B1b+B1c+B1d)**	**3919**
B1 a)	Regionally Explored Area under CBM	920
B1 b)	Area with constraints like ESZ, Forest etc	191
B1 c)	Under Exploration	233
B1 d)	Area for future G2 & G3 Exploration	2575
B2)	**Un Explored (B2a+B2b)**	**13383**
B2 a)	Under CBM	4913
B2 b)	Area for future Exploration	8470
	Area for future RE (B1d+B2b)	**11045**

- Out of the total prognosticated coal bearing area of 32970 sq km, the identified area for future regional exploration is about 11045 sq km. Out of these, 11045 sq km area, CMPDI has already started exploration in about 592 sq km area.

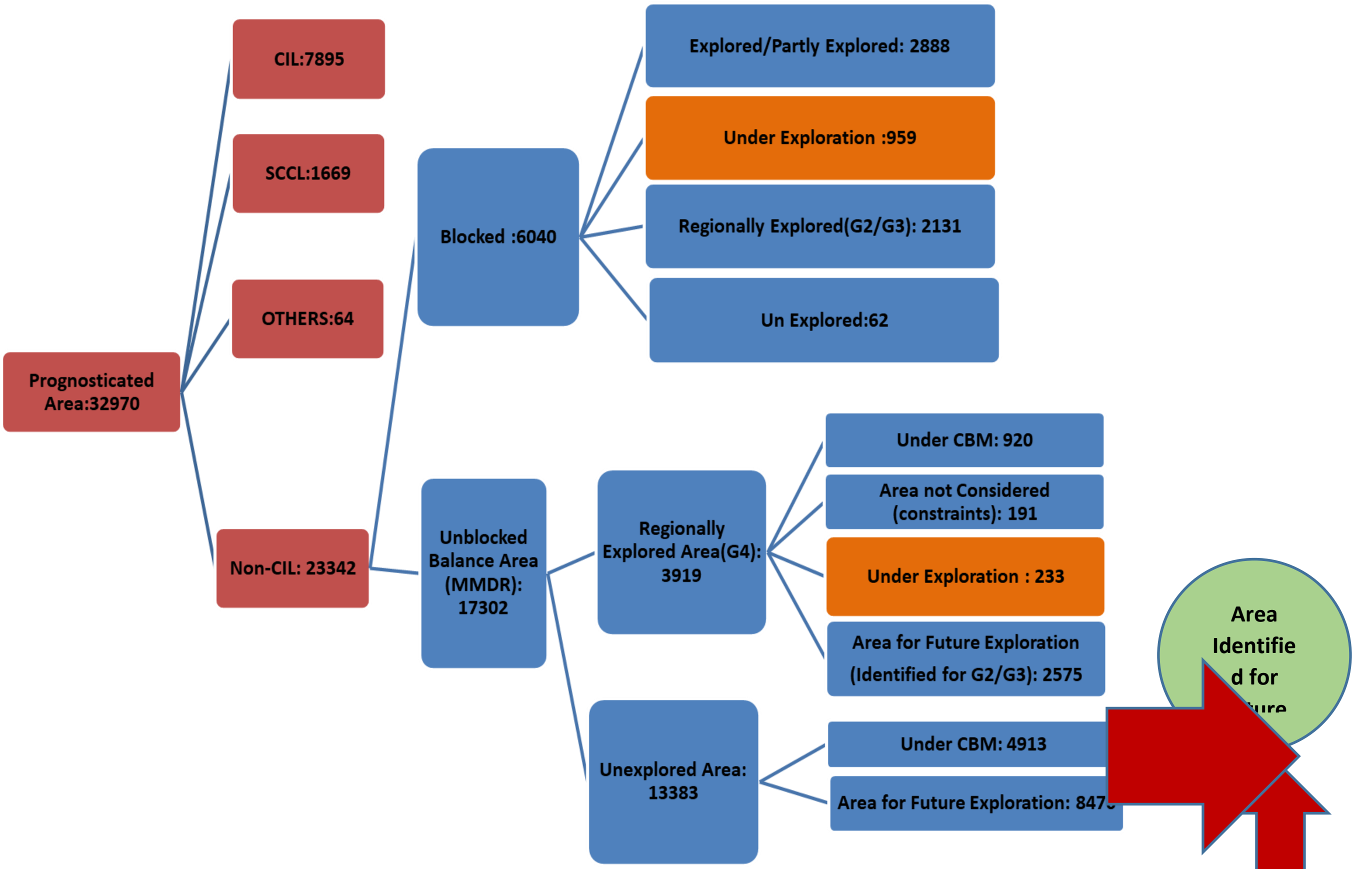


Figure 1: Graphical representation of Revised Prognsosticated Coal Bearing Area

1.2 As per existing practice, during Detailed Exploration (G1 Stage) an average of 10 to 15 boreholes per sq km are being drilled for estimating proved / measured resources, for ascertaining structural complexity and in-crop proving and onward mine planning. However, it is recommended in ISP 2022 the borehole density may be reduced up to 50% if the drilling is supplemented by 2D/3D seismic survey with minimum 24 fold CDP coverage in the entire block. In case of mine planning, additional boreholes may be required to develop geological and mining models on case to case basis to enhance confidence in resource estimation and quality models due to geological /structural variations and complexities related to variable grade. An Integrated Geological Report may be prepared based on drilled borehole data undertaken during Regional Exploration and interpreted 2D Seismic data before planning for detailed exploration which may reduce the borehole density (6 to 7 boreholes per sq km) for estimating proved / measured resources. This would save time and cost provided the outcome gives appropriate degree of confidence.

1.3 It has been observed that the seismic survey can be incorporated as a partial replacement of drilling only after its veracity is proved through some pilot exploration programme in different coalfields. Difficulty of identifying thin seams and quality of coal seams is the main hindrance in adopting 2D seismic survey as a replacement for drilling. However, in such cases the thickness and quality parameters may be extrapolated from the remaining boreholes drilled within the block. Considering the cost and requirement of infrastructural facilities, deployment of 2D seismic survey may be kept optional for promising blocks during regional exploration.

1.4 Data Synthesis & Geological Report: All the data generated are synthesized using the indigenously developed software CEMPGEODOC, SASLINT and other software like PARADIGM (seismic processing & interpretation), MINEX (geological modeling), ARCGIS (plan preparation), AUTOCAD (plan preparation), WELLCAD (geophysical logging, processing & presentation), INTERPRID (gravity and magnetic processing, interpretation and modeling), RESINV (Resistivity imaging), etc., and then used in geological data interpretation & generating 3D models.

The Geological Report (GR) is the output of the interpretation of all the generated data which is the base of the mine planning report prepared by the mine planners. The decision for investment for mine development is based on the information available in the GR.

Question 2. Brief note on National Mineral Exploration trust-

2.1 The National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) was established by the Government of India, vide Gazette Notification G.S.R.633(E) of 14th August, 2015, in pursuance of subsection (1) of Section 9C of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, with the objective to expedite mineral exploration in the country.

2.2 The rules governing NMET were made, vide Gazette Notification G.S.R.632 (E), dated 14th August, 2015. These rules are effective from 12th of January 2015, the date on which the MMDR Amendment Act, 2015 came into force.

2.3 NMET funds are accrued to the Trust for carrying out regional and detailed exploration for augmentation of mineral resource of the country.

2.4 NMET has a two tier structure. The apex body is the Governing Body, chaired by the Hon'ble Minister of Mines. It holds the overall control of the Trust. The Executive Committee, chaired by Secretary, Ministry of Mines, administer and manage its activities. To implement mandated activities pertaining to mineral exploration, an NMET Fund has been established. The NMET Fund receives an amount equivalent to two percent (2%) of royalty paid in terms of the Second Schedule of the MMDR Act from the holders of mining lease or a prospecting licence-cum-mining lease.

2.5 The Trust supports regional and detailed mineral exploration in the country and other activities approved by the Governing Body to achieve its objectives. These include- special studies and projects to identify, explore, extract, beneficiate and refine deep seated and concealed mineral deposits, studies on mineral development, sustainable mining, mineral extraction and metallurgy adopting advanced scientific and technological practices, detailed and regional exploration for strategic and critical minerals, up-gradation of mineral exploration status in an area from G3 to G2/G1 level, exploration leading to grant of mineral concessions, aerial and ground geophysical surveys, geochemical surveys, capacity building of personnel engaged in mineral exploration, etc.

2.6 CMPDI had also submitted 24 proposals of coal Exploration during 2021-22 and 7 proposals during 2022-23, out of which 16 and 7 proposals respectively have been approved by NMET. Similarly, CMPDI has also submitted 2 proposals of Non Coal mineral during 2021-22 and 5 proposals during 2022-23. Out of this, 1 proposal during 2021-22 and 3 proposals during 2022-23 have been approved by NMET and 1 proposal of non-coal during 2022-23 has yet to be considered by TCC of NMET.

Question 3. Brief note on Coal Gasification (UCG) and Coal Bed Methane (CBM) and Coal Mine Methane (CMM) –

3.1 Methane is a powerful greenhouse gas generated during the coalification process stored as adsorbed in coal seams generally called as Coal bed Methane (CBM). Coal seams are the reservoir for the methane generated during coal formation. Methane is a mining hazard and to bring down the methane concentration within safe limits, large quantity of air is injected in the mine and vented out for safety of mine and personnel working underground. With the advancement in recovery and utilization techniques, Coalbed Methane has established itself as a source of clean energy. It possesses an energy value if tapped prior to coal mining and has multi-faceted advantages.

3.2 "Coal Bed Methane" means a natural gas trapped in a coal seam or adjacent strata as per Clause 2(o) of Oil Mines Regulations, 2017 which apply to every oil mine. Coal Mines Regulations, 2017 defines CMM as per clause 2(k) **"Coal Mine Methane (CMM)"** means a natural gas recovered from a **coal mine** or part thereof and AMM as per Clause 2(b) "Abandoned Mine Methane (**AMM**)" means a natural gas recovered from abandoned coal mines or part thereof. Therefore Coalbed Methane (**CBM**) and Coal Mine Methane (**CMM**) are defined as natural gas.

3.3 Coalbed Methane (CBM):

3.3.1 MoP&NG had issued partial modification of CBM Policy, 1997 vide notification dated 8th May' 2018 outlined consolidated terms and conditions for grant of exploration and exploitation rights for CBM to Coal India Limited and its Subsidiaries from its coal bearing areas for which they possess mining lease for coal mining which also will be deemed lease for CBM extraction. Accordingly, CIL & its Subsidiaries need to identify areas for CBM development and sign the contract for commercial extraction with the MoP&NG where coal producing subsidiaries of Coal India Limited (CIL) will be the Lessee(s) of the delineated CBM block(s) in their leasehold areas.

3.3.2 Production of CBM from CIL areas may have a marginal commercial proposition however it will help in enhancing future coal mining of gassy seams safe due to extraction of CBM prior to coal mining.

3.3.3 CMPDI is the Principal Implementing Agency (PIA) under Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with respective Subsidiary on Operationalization of CBM Project(s). A Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) on Operationalization of CBM Project(s) has been signed by CMPDI with ECL, BCCL, & SECL for the CBM projects of Raniganj, Jharia and Sohagpur coalfields.

3.3.4 CMPDI has delineated CBM blocks for commercial exploitation, initially in Damodar Valley Coalfields (under leasehold of BCCL and ECL) and Sohagpur Coalfield (under SECL leasehold). The Project Feasibility Reports (PFR) of three CBM Blocks- (i) **Jharia CBM Block-I**, Jharia Coalfield, (ii) **Raniganj CBM block**, Raniganj Coalfield and (iii) **Sohagpur CBM Block – I** (SECL Areas), Sohagpur Coalfield have been in-principally approved by BCCL, ECL and SECL Board respectively to develop it through CBM Developer (CBMD). The Global bid documents were published for extraction of CBM from these blocks, only one bid received for Jharia CBM Block-I, however no bid received for Raniganj CBM Block and Sohagpur CBM Block-I. The Jharia CBM Block-I (BCCL leasehold area) has been awarded to M/s Prabha Energy Private Limited for extraction of CBM.

Sl.	Block	Subsidiary	Area (Km^2)	CBM Resource (BCM)
1.	Jharia CBM Block – I	BCCL	~26.55	25 BCM
2.	Raniganj CBM Block	ECL	~33	2.2 BCM
3.	Shogapur CBM Block – I	SECL	~51	0.52 BCM

3.4 Underground Coal Gasification

3.4.1 India having huge resources of Coal and Lignite which is major source of energy in sustainable way. However, all established resources are not mineable for various reasons. Underground Coal Gasification (UCG) may be a possible technology of extraction through which such reserves possibly can be optimized for utilization of available reserves which cannot be extracted by present available mining technology.

3.4.2 MoC has constituted Inter Ministerial Committee (IMC) for identification of areas for UCG on the line broadly similar to the existing policy of CBM development. Government of India (GoI) has notified UCG Policy in September, 2016 to enable the development of UCG so as to maximize the utilization of difficult to mine coal and lignite resources and promote Clean Coal Technologies.

3.4.3 The UCG process is cost intensive and only limited technology provider experts are available globally also it is technologically challenging mainly on account of (i) Environmental issues; (ii) Surface subsidence; (iii) Ground water contamination, etc.

3.4.4 On market survey it has also been observed that as there very few suitable International Expert on UCG as Technology Provider and their Technology is under Copy Right i.e; (i) εUCG™ (Ergo Exergy Technologies Inc. Canada), (ii) keyseam® (Carbon Energy, Australia), (iii) CRIP (LLNL, USA), (iv) SWIFT (Portman Energy, Canada), Yerostigaz, a subsidiary of Linc Energy, Uzbekistan etc.

3.4.5 CIL is exploring the feasibility of the technology in Indian conditions as limited technology providers are available globally and there are environmental concerns on adoption of this technology. Subsequently, it has been planned to visit the UCG running pilot facility and prepare document that will aid in assessing the viability of UCG technology in Indian geo-conditions.

3.4 Brief Note on Surface Coal Gasification :

- **Financial Support**: Modified EFC Note for providing assistance of Rs. 6000 Crores, after IMC, was submitted to Department of Expenditure on **20.12.2022**. DoE has sought further input from Department of Revenue and some financial details on projects of PSUs. EFC proposal approved on 21.04.2023.
- **Equity Exemption approval**: Draft Cabinet Note to enhance equity investment of Coal India Limited in coal Gasification projects beyond 30% have been circulated for IMC on **23.12.2022.** Final DCN is under approval.
- **Projects through JV**: As directed, as a parallel activity, Coal India Board has approved formation of Joint Venture with BHEL, IOCL and GAIL for setting up of projects. During review meeting of Secretary Coal on 17th Jan 2023, BHEL, IOCL and GAIL have been directed to obtain Board approval.
- **WCL Project**: A meeting with CIL, EIL and WCL was convened on **6.1.2023** to finalize way ahead of project. This has been re-tendered.
- **Methanol Project of NLCIL**: Tenders have been floated for 02 units of the project.
- **Long term linkage for SNG**: A DO letter was sent on **19.12.2022** to Department of Fertilizer for securing long term (20 year) supply agreement in Fertilizer industry for SNG/SynGas produced from these projects. Department of Fertilizer in the meeting held on 17.01.2023 has given in principal approval for long term linkage for SNG from Coal Gasification plants subject to meeting delivered cost of NG on LT contracts.
- **Policy Notification of MoPNG**: A DO letter has been sent on **19.12.2022** to MoP&NG for Policy notification for giving policy support like 20% DME blending with LPG, De-linking the Coal-based SNG price from imported LNG prices and Coal based Ethanol pricing – Inclusion in the PM JI-VAN Yojna as 2G-ethanol. Response is being pursued from MoP&NG.
- **Policy for Coal Availability**: To ensure availability of coal for private operators at reasonable cost, MoC has issued directions:
  - To CIL/SCCL to create separate window under NRS Linkage Auction Policy 2016 for Coal Gasification Projects for long term supply for desired quality and quantity.
  - Providing 50% rebate in revenue share for Coal Block Allocatee for coal used for gasification.

Question 4. Brief note on Make in India –

Coal India Limited's initiative of setting up new Washeries is in line with the Make in India Project of the Indian Government. The setting up of Coal Washeries by Coal India and its subsidiaries covers 2 sectors identified for the Government of India's Make in India Project, namely – Construction and

Mining, executed through PPP models in Build-Own-Operate and Build-Operate-Maintain concepts. The Washery Projects are being set up by Indian companies and will directly and/or indirectly comply with the three objectives of the Make in India Projects -

a. to increase the manufacturing sector's growth rate – Enhanced production of washed coal

to create 100 million additional manufacturing jobs in the economy – Increased employment in the washeries and associated hinterland

b. to ensure that the manufacturing sector's contribution to GDP is increased – Increased value of washery products like cleans, Middlings and even saleable 3rd products and reducing import bill by substitution of Imported coking coal.

All the new tenders for washery construction/renovation/spares/services will mandatorily have the Make in India Clause incorporated dated 4th June 2020.

However, the indigenous coal washing support industry is still heavily dependent on imported equipment, which have been designed to treat coal that is significantly different from Indian coal of drift origin.

There is a need for developing indigenous solutions to coal washing challenges and increased coordination among academia-research institutions and related business establishments with improved and meaningful result-oriented commercially feasible R&D initiatives.

The planning of these washeries in CIL may catalyse the right push required for the make in India campaign where more technologies and equipment are developed and manufactured in India.

Public Procurement (Preference to 'Make in India') Order, 2017 for procurement of Goods, Services and Works has been revised vide Order no. P-45021/2/2017-PP (BE-II) dated 04.06.2020 of Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India. As per the revised Order, the Works also includes Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contracts and services include System Integrator (SI) contracts.

This has been circulated vide Office Order No. CIL/C2D/Purchase Manual 2020/1696 dated 25.06.2020 to all the Subsidiary Companies and HoDs of CIL (HQ) for implementation and incorporation in NITs for procurement of Goods, Services and Works.

Provision of Public Procurement i.e. Preference to Make in India Policy as detailed in GoI order number P-5021/2/2017- B.E.-II dated 15th June, 2017 as amended from time to time is incorporated in all the tender documents for setting up of new washeries (on BOM and BOO Concept) as well as renovation of existing washeries in various subsidiaries of CIL for giving preference to "Make in India" Products.

Ministry of Coal has constituted a Committee to suggest measures to promote construction of machineries used in coal sector in India.

MPS

Section

Question 1. Brief note on approval of Mining Plan and Closure Plan –

1.1. This Ministry has issued revised comprehensive "Guidelines for Preparation, Formulation, Submission, Processing, Scrutiny, Approval and Revision of Mining plan for the coal and lignite blocks" on 29.5.2020. All coal (including lignite) mining operations in India shall be governed as per these modified guidelines. Henceforth, the Mine Closure Plan and Final Mine Closure Plan shall be integral part of Mining Plan. Separate approval of Mine Closure Plan/ Final Closure Plan has been done away with.

Now, mine plan, including mine closure plan are submitted online on SWCS portal and approval is given by the Coal Controller.

1.2 Implementation of the approved Mining Plans is now sole responsibility of the mine owner. Mining operations are to be undertaken in accordance with the duly approved mining plan. The mining plan once approved shall be valid for the balance life of the Mine, provided that any modification(s) of the mining plan is approved by the competent authority and such approval of the modified mining plan shall remain valid for the estimate balance life of the mining plan. Modification of the approved mining plan during the operation of a mining lease also requires prior approval.

1.3 The mining plan shall cover prescription for different phases of life of the mine as stage plan. The Stage plan for 1st year, 3rd year, 5th year, year of achieving rated capacity of the mine, Final year (i.e. at the end of mine life) and post closure shall be submitted at the time of initial submission of mining plan.

1.4 The project proponent has to submit a **report/information** consisting **a.** compliance status with respect to approval condition of mining plan and grounds specified at para 1.3A; **b.** stage plan for next five years; **c.** revised balance life of the mine; and **d.** revised calculation of ESCROW amount with respect to revised balance life, to Coal Controller, CCO, Kolkata with a copy of the same to Administrative Section dealing with the allocation/allotment of the block and section dealing with approval of mining plan at MoC/CCO, **for information**. Such report/information needs to be submitted at least 180(one hundred eighty) days before the expiry of 5 (five) year, starting from the commencement of the Mineral Concession (Amendment) Rules, 2020 or the date of execution of the duly executed mining lease deed, whichever is later. Information desired above must bear certificate of **Qualified Person/ Accredited Mining Plan preparing Agency** and have approval of the respective company board. Non submission of such information during the stipulated time may result in withdrawal of mine opening permission or cancellation of the approved mining plan, as may be decided by CCO.

1.5 The Mining Plan approved prior to issue of this Guideline will qualify for submission of such report/information at least 180(one hundred eighty) days prior to expiry of 5 (five) year from the date of notification of the Mineral Concession Amendment Rules 2020.

1.6 The mining plan may be modified for **a.** for change in method of mining; **b**. for facilitating increase in sanctioned peak capacity that is in excess of one hundred and fifty per cent of the sanctioned rated capacity; **c.** change in leased area; **d.** in the interest of safe and scientific mining; **e.** conservation of minerals; **f.** for the protection of environment; **g.** addition of reserve by way of proving of reserve in the existing lease area; **h.**for changes in final mine closure conditions; or **i.** and such other change that may be determined by the Central Government. While submission of revision/ modification of mining plan the reason for revision/ modification shall be specified in writing by the lessee.

1.7 For other minor changes, the project proponent is empowered to make modification with the approval of the respective company board. These minor changes shall cover **a.** changes in land type within the leased area; **b.** changes in HEMM deployment plan; and **c.** changes in location of infrastructure within the leased area. The project proponent shall submit specific report of such minor changes to Coal Controller, CCO, Kolkata with a copy of the same to Administrative Section dealing with the allocation/allotment of the block and section dealing with approval of mining plan at MoC/CCO, for information.

1.8 The Mining Plan submitted for approval shall have prior approval of the concerned Board of the Company. The base date of the Mining Plan should be taken as cut-off date on which the extractable reserve, balance life etc. has been quantified.

1.9 The proposed leased area in the Mining Plan shall include the area specified in the mining lease within which mining operations can be undertaken and includes the non-mineralized area required and approved for the activities falling under the definition of mine as referred in The Mines Act 1952.Evacuation route, R&R and Employee Township area outside the block will not be part of the Mining plan.

1.10 In case of allotted/auctioned coal/lignite blocks, the mining plan may be revised for extraction of more coal on year to year basis.

1.11 The approval of the revised Mining Plan shall not result in changes in the terms and conditions or efficiency parameters mentioned in the CMDPA/Allotment Agreement signed at the time of allotment/vesting for the auctioned/allotted blocks without prior approval of the nominated authority or Central Government, as the case may be. However, efficiency parameters mentioned in the CMDPA/Allotment Agreement shall be linked to the rated capacity of the mine.

1.12 The project proponent shall envisage the action plan for exploration and liquidation of the balance reserve yet to be projectised.The project proponent shall take all necessary precautions regarding safety of mine workings and persons deployed therein and shall adhere to all the statutory clearances with regards to safety.

1.13 Mine closure Plans: Mine Closure Plans will have two components viz. i) Progressive or Concurrent Mine Closure Plan, and ii) Final Mine Closure Plan. Progressive Mine Closure Plan would include various land use activities to be done continuously and sequentially during the entire period of the mining operations, whereas the Final Mine Closure activities would start towards the end of mine life, and may continue even after the reserves are exhausted and/or mining is discontinued till the mining area is restored to an acceptable level. The Mine closure details of the Mining Plan should be oriented towards the restoration of land back to its original as far as practicable or further improved condition. Progressive mine closure plan shall be prepared for a period of every five years from the beginning of the mining operations.

1.14 **Responsibility of the mine owner:** It is the responsibility of the mine owner to ensure that the protective measures contained in the mine closure plan including reclamation and rehabilitation works have been carried out in accordance with the approved mine closure plan and final mine closure plan. The owner shall submit to the Coal Controller a yearly report before 1st July of every year setting forth the extent of protective and rehabilitative works carried cut as envisaged in the approved mine closure plans (Progressive and Final Closure Plans).

1.15 Final Closure Certificate: The Mine owner shall be required to obtain a mine closure certificate from Coal Controller to the effect the protective, reclamation, and rehabilitation work in accordance with the approved Mining plan covering final mine closure provisions/activities have been carried out by the mine owner for surrendering the reclaimed land to the State Government.

1.16 No mining plan shall be accepted unless it is prepared by Qualified Person (QP) or Accredited Mining Plan Preparing Agency (MPPA).

1.17 Submission, Processing and Scrutiny of Mining Plan -

1.17.1 Every mining plan submitted for approval/modification is to be accompanied with a non-refundable application fee specified from time to time in this regard, for the project area specified in the mining plan and peer/expert review done by any accredited mining plan preparing or reviewing agency at their (applicant's) own cost. All pages (including cover page, plates and Annexures) shall bear the signature & stamp furnishing details of the QP/Accredited Mining Plan preparing Agency (MPPA) in physical mode of submission and e-signature/digital signature during the online system of submission.

1.17.2 The project proponent shall submit one soft copy and four hard copies of Mining Plan (draft)- one each to the concerned Administrative Section of the Ministry of Coal for the concerned block, Section of MoC/CCO dealing with approval of Mining plan, Coal Controller, CMPDIL/ Extended office of CCO & the dispatch receipt of the speed post (confirming that the draft Mining Plan has been sent).

1.17.3 The project proponent shall incorporate the observation (if any) and submit the mining plan (after incorporating the compliance to the observation) to section of MoC/CCO dealing with approval of Mining plan, concerned administrative section of the Ministry of Coal, Coal Controller and CMPDIL/ Extended office of CCO.

1.17.4 Submission of Mining Plan (after incorporating compliance) to Ministry of Coal: The project proponent shall submit 04 (Four) hard copies & 01 (one) soft copy of modified Mining Plan and the compliance to the observations along with copy of the dispatch receipt of the Speed Post (confirming that the modified Mining Plan has been sent to section of MoC/ CCO dealing with approval of Mining Plan, concerned administrative section of the Ministry of Coal, Coal Controller, and CMPDIL/ Extended office of CCO).

1.17.5 Scrutiny & Processing of Mining Plan - CMPDIL/Extended office of CCO at Delhi shall scrutinize the mining plan and submit comments to section of MoC/CCO dealing with approval of Mining plan within Fifteen (15) days of receipt of the Mining Plan. Non-submission of comments within the stipulated time may be presumed as "no comment" from CMPDIL/Extended office of CCO; CMPDIL/ Extended office of CCO at Delhi, if consider necessary to make a physical verification of the site/site visit for scrutiny of the mining plan, may make such site visit/physical verification of the site, however, no relaxation in the time line as specified above may be given.

1.17.6 Administrative Section of the Ministry of Coal (dealing with the block) shall scrutinize the mining plan with respect to Vesting order/ allotment order and CMDPA signed with allottee at the time of allotment and submit observations to section of MoC/CCO dealing with approval of Mining plan (till the development of portal for Mining plan approval) within Fifteen (15) days of receipt of the Mining Plan. Non-submission of comments within the stipulated time may be presumed as "no comment" from the administrative section;

1.17.7 Members of the Internal Committee shall examine the mining plan from Technical and administrative angle based on the observations of the Administrative Section (dealing with the respective block) and CMPDIL/Extended office of CCO and the peer/expert review report submitted with the mining plan and submit observations to section of MoC/CCO dealing with approval of Mining plan (till the development of portal for Mining plan approval) within Fifteen (15) days of receipt of the Mining Plan. Non-submission of comments within the stipulated time may be presumed as "no comment" from the administrative section

1.17.8 Section of MoC/CCO dealing with approval of Mining plan shall communicate the observation (if any) to the project proponent for compliance till the development of online system for submission, processing, and approval of mining plan.

1.18 Timeline for submission of Compliance: Once the observation of the Scrutiny of the mining plan is communicated either in hard copy, mail or online, the Project Proponent is required to submit the mining plan after incorporating the compliance to the observation within a period of 15 days of the communication, failing which the mining plan submitted for approval shall be rejected. However, in any case this period may not be extended beyond 30 days from the date of receipt of communication of the observation.

1.19 Approving Authority: The powers to approve mining plan for all categories of coal and lignite mines and sand for stowing shall be exercisable by Project Adviser, Ministry of Coal.

1.20 Internal Committee for Scrutiny of Mining Plan: Members of the Internal Committee shall examine the mining plan from Technical and administrative angle based on the observations of the Administrative Section dealing with the respective block & CMPDIL/ Extended office of CCO. The internal committee shall recommend the mining plan for "Approval" or "Rejection". In case of recommendation for Rejection, the committee shall record the reason for Rejection. At present, the internal committee shall consist of:

1. Director (Technical), MoC, Member Secretary
2. Director/ Deputy Secretary, MoC of the section dealing with the allocation/allotment of the respective block, Member
3. Coal Controller or his representative, Member
4. Director level officer of CMPDIL, Member
5. Director/Deputy Secretary, Nominated Authority, Member

1.21 Communication of Approval: In case of allotted/auctioned mine, section dealing with approval of Mining Plan shall communicate the decision of the approving authority within a period of 5 (five) working days in form of a letter confirming "in-principle approval" of the Mining Plan to the project proponent with a copy of the same to the Nominated Authority, Govt. of India. Final approval of the Mining Plan in such cases shall be communicated by the section dealing with approval of Mining Plan, only on receipt of applicable payments and its confirmation from the Nominated Authority, Govt. of India.While for mines other than auctioned/allotted mines, section dealing with approval of Mining Plan shall communicate the decision of the approving authority within a period of 5 working days.

1.22 Revision: Any person aggrieved by any order made or direction issued in respect of mining plan by an officer competent to approval mining plans shall within 30 days of the communication of such order or direction, apply to the Secretary (Coal), Ministry of Coal for a revision of such order or direction thereon. On receipt of any application for revision the authority shall give the aggrieved person a reasonable opportunity of being heard and may within 30 days confirm, modify or set aside the order or direction and his decision thereon shall be final.

1.23 This Guideline supersedes the previous orders and are without any prejudice to any other relevant rules and regulations, such as those issued by the State Governments, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Ministry of Labour and Employment, etc.

1.24 Ministry of Coal has issued guidelines in October, 2022 for closing the coal mines closed before 2009.

Question 2. Brief note on Jharia-Raniganj Master Plan –

Ans. The Master Plan for dealing with fire, subsidence and rehabilitation in the lease hold of Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) and Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) was approved on 12th August 2009 by Govt. of India with an estimated investment of Rs. 7,112.11 crores for Jharia Coalfields (JCF) and Rs.2,661.73crores for Raniganj Coalfields (RCF) Implementation period have been delineated as 10 years for RCF and 10+2 years for JCF.

Jharia Rehabilitation and Development Authority (JRDA) is the implementing agency for rehabilitation of non-BCCL families under Master Plan andAsansol Durgapur Development Authority (ADDA) has been identified as implementing agency on the behalf of Govt. of WB for Rehabilitation of Non-ECL families.

To review the activities of implementation of both the Master Plan, a High Powered Central Committee (HPCC) has been constituted, under the chairmanship of the Secretary (Coal), MoC and till June 2020, twenty one (21) nos. of meeting have been held.

A) Jharia Master Plan (In the leasehold of BCCL) –

Scope of Jharia Master Plan: Jharia Master Plan, 2009 had three aspects such as:

- Dealing with fires
- Rehabilitation of persons from the affected areas BCCL and Non- BCCL families, within 595 unstable sites (due to Fire, subsidence or both).
- Survey for diversion of surface infrastructure.

In Jharia Master Plan 45 fire projects were made to deal with 67 nos. of fire locations. Implementation of the 45 numbers of fire projects was to be done within a time frame of 10 years, each of 5 years was the responsibility of BCCL. In Phase-I, 28 numbers were, and in Phase II 17 numbers of the project were to be implemented.

Total no. of sites proposed to be rehabilitated was 595 (326 in full & 269 in part). The total affected area under these sites was estimated to be 25.70 sq.

Rs. 2,311.50 crores were earmarked for dealing with fires, while the remaining amount, Rs. 4,780.60 crores, for cost of rehabilitation. For shifting of infrastructure, a lump sum provision of Rs. 20.00 Crs as advance action had been kept for surveying, planning & preparation of DPR of Rail & Road diversion.

Present Status:

Fire:

As per the NRSC study report submitted in Aug 2021 after field inspection, the number of active surface fire sites identified has reduced to 27, and the fire surface area has also decreased to 1.80 sq Km.

	1972-73 (At the time of Nationalization)	1996 (GAI/MET-CHEM)	2012 (NRSC)	2018 (NRSC)	2020 (NRSC)	2021 (NRSC)
No. of Fire Sites	77	67	32	34	27	27

Total fire sites	**27**
Viable fire Sites	16
Fire sites for which VGF of 1114.20 Crs is required	1

Out of 16 Mineable locations, 15 are under operation. Fire will be dugged out on these locations by 2025. One location proposal is under formulation. **Balance 10 sites will be dealt by blanketing by 2025.** NRSC is being engaged for continuously monitoring of fire area for 3 years.

Rehabilitation:

As per the Jharia Master Plan, there were total 595 sites out of which 39 sites are dug out till date. For remaining 556 sites, projected action plan is as under:

S.No	Details	No. of Sites
1	Sites already excavated	**39**
2	Sites likely to be covered in the existing running OC patches of BCCL and under proposed projects in future	**349***
3.	Sites where mining is not feasible, the rehabilitation to be taken up by JRDA	**207**

* BCCL will formulate mining proposals.

Rehabilitation of LTH families will be done as per R & R Policy of CIL at Mineable projects through BCCL's own fund and for Non-Mineable projects VGF shall be obtained from Jharia Master Plan.

BCCL engaged CMPDIL for a drone survey of the balance of 556 sites. Based on the report received from DRONE survey of CMPDI and Joint physical verification of sites done by BCCL with district administration, 81 most vulnerable sites were identified.

	Phase-I	Phase-II	Total
Mineable Sites	7	342	349
Non-Mineable Sites	74	133	207
Total	**81**	**475**	**556**

House construction & Shifting:

	BCCL	JRDA
Houses taken up for construction	15713	18272
No. of houses completed	11798	6352
No. of families shifted	4205	2676

BCCL has demolished 9582 houses to date after shifting families from the affected area. 8000 BCCL quarters which were earlier to be given to JRDA by BCCL, should continue to be in custody of BCCL. After confirmation of LTH status, these quarters will be allotted by JRDA to the LTH families based on their options and the allottees will directly take possession of houses.

As provisions of the approved Master Plan were not acceptable to LTH families, no LTH family could be shifted to date. As per the surveys conducted by JRDA in 2017- 2019, a total of 104,946 families are estimated to be rehabilitated.

Year	LTH	Non-LTH	Total
2004	29444	23847	53291
2017-19 Survey	32064	72882	104946

Infrastructure Shifting:

- RITES submitted a Feasibility Study Report (FSR) for the Diversion of Railway lines from Fire-affected/Unstable Areas, which has been agreed upon by the Concerned Department.

- The DPR is under preparation by RITES. RITES have submitted a Preliminary Study Report for the Diversion of District Board (DB) Roads also.

Status of Funding:

Sl. No.	Particulars	Fund available (Cr.)	Expenditure(Cr.)	Balance (Cr.)	% Expenditure
1	BCCL part	3379.96	781.61	2598.35	23.12
2	Non BCCL part	3732.15	1040.11	2692.04	27.86
	Total	7112.11	1821.72	5290.39	25.61

B) Raniganj Master Plan (in the leasehold of ECL)-

i) Rehabilitation status of ECL & Non ECL families under Master Plan

There are three locations namely JoteJanki, Amritnagar and Ratibati 3,4 & 7 pits where houses of ECL comes under fire affected area as per Master Plan. ECL had 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 zone. All fires have been extinguished.

Construction of 12,976 flats for Non ECL families have been started by ADDA at four identified resettlement sites i.e. at Bijoynagar, Daskeary and Dakshinkhanda & Namokeshia., Construction in 551 blocks (contains 8816 flats) out of 811 blocks as per DPR are in progress. Rs. 300 Cr has been given to ADDA to complete Rehabilitation projects.

C) Fund Released & Utilized against Master Plan-

After approval of Master Plan, total fund released by CIL is Rs. 1,965.63 Crs till June 2020 for implementation of both the Master Plan. Total fund released to BCCL is Rs.1,382.93 Crs and to ECL Rs. 582.69 Crs respectively till June 2020.

Expenditure as reported by ECL is Rs. 331.74 Crs (Rs. 328.77 Crs by ADDA & Rs.2.97 Crs by ECL) and expenditure as reported by BCCL is Rs.1,378.44

Crs (Rs.747.78 Crs by BCCL and Rs.630.66 Crs by JRDA till June 2020. Rs. 300 Cr has been given to ADDA in March, 2023 to complete Rehabilitation projects.

D) Revision of Master Plan of JCF & RCF:

Raniganj Master Plan expired on 11.08.2019 and Jharia Master Plan expired in August, 2021. Government has constituted a committee to suggest way forward on Jharia Master Plan. This Committee has submitted its report, which is under finalization. This Report has been approved by the Committee of Secretaries, headed by Cabinet Secretary and accepted by Hon'ble Coal Minister. This report has been sent to concerned authorities for implementation. Further, DCN on this issue is under IMC.
No proposal for revival of Raniganj Master Plan is under consideration of this Ministry.

Question: 3. Brief note on Central Sector Schemes –
Ans. Rs. 563.50 crore has been provisioned under BE-2023-24 under the Central Sector Schemes, to meet the requisite demands. Scheme-wise funds provisions are as per the details given below-

	Revenue		Allocation (Rs. In crore)
	Central Sector Scheme		
1	Research & Development Programme		21.00
2	Conservation Safety and Infrastructure Development in Coal Mines	Conservation and Safety in Coal Mines	20.00
		Development of Transportation Infrastructure in coalfields areas	72.00
		Environmental Measures and Subsidence Control	0.50
3	Exploration of Coal and Lignite	Regional Exploration	250.00
		Detailed Drilling	200.00
		Total Central Sector Schemes	**563.50**

Question: 4. How many coal projects are suffering from disaster management-

Ans. No coal projects / mines of CIL are suffering from disaster management. However, CIL and its subsidiaries have effective disaster management system, which are given below:

- The Emergency Response and Evacuation plan is prepared in each mine of CIL and its subsidiaries as per regulation no. 252 of Coal Mine Regulation (CMR)-2017 to respond any emergency arising out of major accident or disaster.
- Further, the Principal Hazard Management Plans (PHMP) as per regulation no. 104:5(d) of CMR-2017 is also prepared as a part of Safety Management

Plans (SMPs) to develop capability to eliminate or to control any known principal hazard exists in mine.

(Note: Principal Hazards are those hazards of mine, which causes catastrophic consequences but less likelihood of happening.)

- Mock rehearsals are carried out time to time to assess the efficacy of Emergency Response and Evacuation plan.
- Safety Audit of mine is done every year to assess the safety status of mine and preparedness for emergency situations.
- Mine level Safety Committee and Area / HQ level Tripartite Safety Committee is assess various measures taken as part of disaster management.
- There are 6 Mine Rescue Stations (MRS), 13 Rescue Rooms-with-Refresher Training facilities (RRRT) and 17 Rescue Rooms (RR) to deal with any exigency arising out of mine emergency. All Rescue Stations / Rooms are fully equipped with adequate numbers of rescue apparatus and manpower as per the Mine Rescue Rules (MRR) - 1985.
- CIL employs Permanent Brigade Members and RTPs who are on call 24x7. The Mine Rescue Station and Rescue Rooms are established at strategic locations. The details are as under:

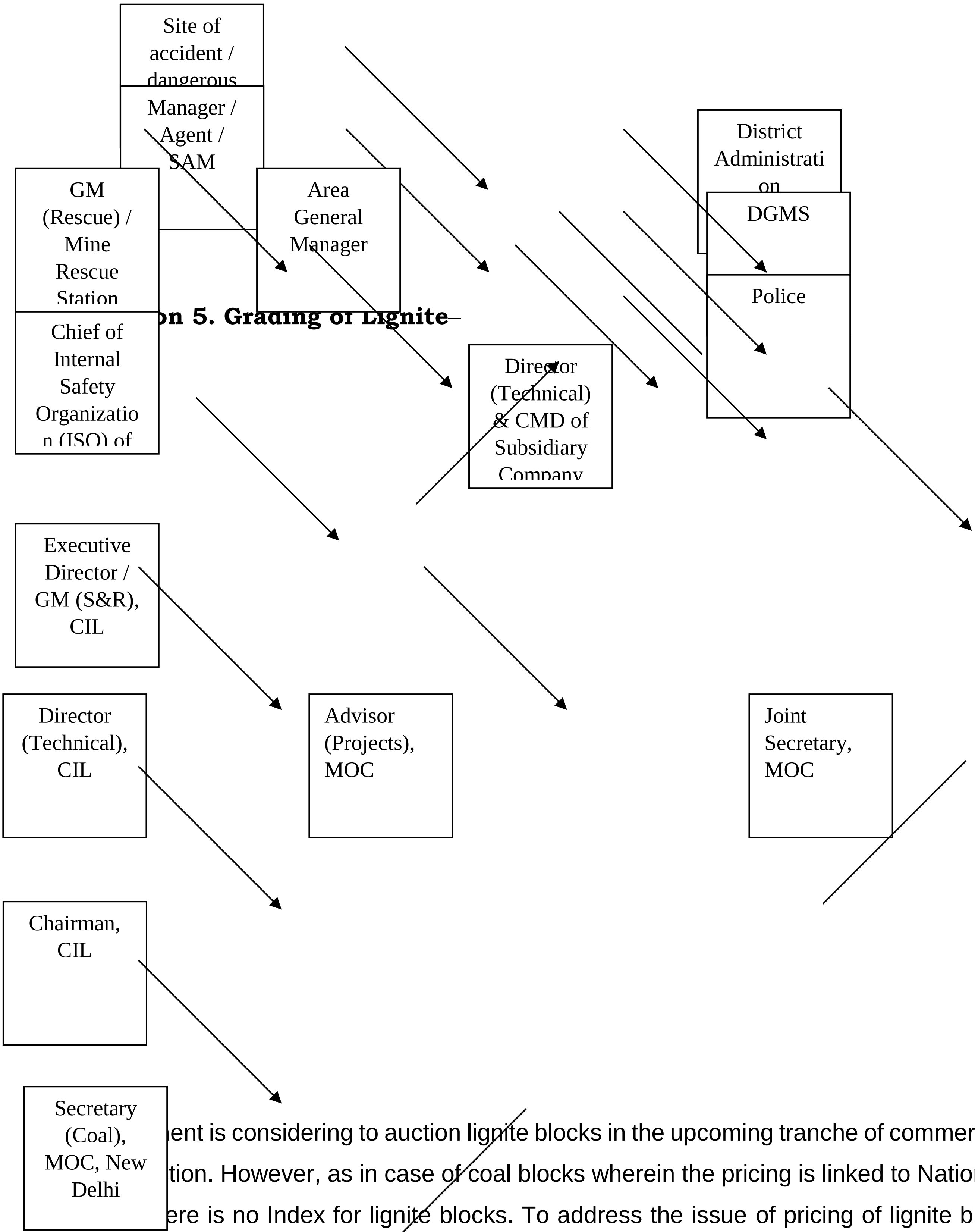
Company	Rescue establishment presently operating		
	Mine Rescue Station (MRS)	Rescue room with Refreshers Training (RRRT)	Rescue Room (RR)
ECL	Sitarampur	Kenda	Jhanjra ,Kalidaspur,Mugma
BCCL	Dhansar		Moonidih, Madhuband, Sudamdih
CCL	Ramgarh	Kathara&Churi	Dhori, Kedla&Urimari
SECL	Manindragarh	Sohagpur, Kusmunda, Johilla, Bisrampur, Baikunthpur	Chirimiri, Raigarh, Bhatgaon, Jamuna &Kotma, korba
WCL	Nagpur	Parasia, Pathakhera,Tadali	Damua , New Majri&Sasti
MCL	Brajraj Nagar	Talcher,	-
NEC	-	Tipong	-
Total	**6**	**13**	**17**

- Further, CIL has also framed one simplified Flow Chart for sending information regarding crisis / disaster in mines from the site of accident to various level upto the Ministry of Coal, which is given in **Annexure.**

Apart the above, need based assistance from **National Disaster Response Force (NDRF)** are sought and taken to deal with emergency situation after any major accident or disaster in mines.

Annexure

Flow Chart for sending Information regarding Disaster in mine from the site of accident to various level upto the Ministry of Coal, New Delhi



on 5. Grading of Lignite–

...ent is considering to auction lignite blocks in the upcoming tranche of commercial coal ...tion. However, as in case of coal blocks wherein the pricing is linked to National Coal ...ere is no Index for lignite blocks. To address the issue of pricing of lignite blocks, in line with the National Coal Index, a National Lignite Index needs to be developed. For designing and formulating the National Lignite Index, it is necessary to formulate different grades of lignite resources based on appropriate energy efficiency parameters like Gross Calorific Value etc. Accordingly, a Technical Committee was constituted vide order dated 01.04.2022 to consider and make suitable recommendations on grading/ categorization of lignite resource. After due consideration, the committee had submitted its final report on Recommendations on Grading/Categorization of Lignite Resources in June, 2022. After stakeholders′ consultation, it was finalized and accepted by the Ministry in November, 2022. Now, based on the recommendations of the said Technical Committee, this notification for grading of lignite has been issued by the Government on 20.01.2023.

CMPF

Section

Question 1. Policy on redressal of grievance mechanism.

Ans. A separate cell functions in the Headquarter Office, CMPFO for redressing grievances of the subscribers. Grievance received in the Regional Offices are dealt with at concerned Regional Offices themselves. Grievances are mostly about delay in settlement of claims and updation of individual accounts.

So far as online grievances are concerned (received through CPGRAM portal), these are forwarded to concerned Regional Offices by the Nodal Officer appointed by Organisation and regularly being watched for proper disposal.

Question 2. Status of Public Grievance related to Pension and Provident Fund (PF) claims.

Ans. The detail of the status of pension and Provident Fund (PF) related grievances, received during 01.04.2022 to 31.03.2023 as per the CPGRAMS portal are as follows:

Brought Forwarded (As on 01.04.2022)	Grievance(s) Received	Grievance(s) Disposed	Pending as on 31/03/2023
78	687	742	23

Question 3. Brief note on Coal Mines Provident Fund Organisation.

Ans. The Coal Mines Provident Fund Organisation (CMPFO) is an autonomous Organisation under the Ministry of Coal, which administers the following Schemes:

a. Coal Mines Provident Fund Scheme, 1948
b. Coal Mines Pension Scheme, 1998

The brief of each of the above schemes are as under:

a. **COAL MINES PROVIDENT FUND SCHEME, 1948:-** The Coal Mines Provident Fund Scheme framed under the Coal Mines Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1948 (46 of 1948) provides Provident fund benefits to all employees of coal mines in India. The workers contribute to the Coal Mines Provident Fund at the rate of 12% of their emoluments and the employers pay an equivalent amount.

   The entire accumulations in the fund are invested in accordance with guidelines laid down by the Ministry of Finance and Board of Trustees, CMPF. The fund vests in and is administered by a tripartite Board of Trustees consisting of representatives of employers, employees and Central/State Governments. As on 28.02.2023 the membership of CMPF Scheme, 1948 is reported at 3,47,535.

b. **COAL MINES PENSION SCHEME, 1998:-** This scheme has been notified by the Central Government on 5th March, 1998, in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 3E of the Coal Mines Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1948 (46 of 1948) and in supersession of the Coal Mines Family Pension Scheme, 1971. The Coal Mines Pension Scheme has come into force with effect from the 31st day of March, 1998 and on that day its members were 7,82,578 working in different coal mines within the country. As on 28.02.2023 the CMPS, 1998 Membership is reported at 3,68,567. The highlights of the Scheme are:-

(i) Corpus of the Fund and its sustainability:
The Pension Fund consists of the following:-

a. Net assets of the Coal Mines Family Pension Scheme, 1971 as on the appointed day i.e. 31.03.1998;
b. Member's and Employer's contribution to Pension Fund has been modified to 7% share each replacing all other contribution as above being paid by employee & employer vide GSR No. 540(E) published on 08th June 2018 w.e.f. 01.10.2017.

c. An amount equivalent to one and two-third percent of the salary of the employee to be contributed by the Central Government from the appointed day;
d. Amounts to be deposited by new optees in terms of the provisions of the Scheme.

The Commissioner is responsible for getting the valuation of the Pension fund done every third year by an Actuary, to be appointed by the Board of Trustees.

(ii) Coverage:

All employees who were members of the ceased Coal Mines Family Pension Scheme, 1971 and were on rolls on 31st March, 1998.

a. All such employees who are appointed on or after 31st March, 1998.
b. All such optee members retired from service during the period from 01.04.1994 to 30.03.1998 and who opted for membership of the Pension Fund in Form PS-I and PS-2 as the case may be.

All such employees who died while in service during the period 01.04.1994 to 31.03.1998 are treated as deemed optee of the scheme vide G.S.R. No.521(E) dated 12.08.2004.

(iii) Benefits:

1. Monthly Pension
2. Disablement Pension
3. Widow or Widower Pension
4. Children Pension
5. Orphan Pension
6. Ex-gratia Payment.

EA Section

Qn.1 Brief note on Imported coal

All India raw coal production has increased from 675.40 MT in 2017-18 to 893.081 MT in 2022-23. Absolute increase in all India coal production during this period was 217.681 MT as compared to an increase of 73.01 MT achieved in the preceding six years (2008-09 to 2013-14).

Coal imports which had reached a peak of 212.103 MT in 2014-15, declined continuously for the next two years to 203.95 MT in 2015-16 and further to 191.009 MT in 2016-17. However, import of coal increased to 208.25 MT in 2017-18, 235.35 MT in 2018-19 and further to 248.54 MT in 2019-20. Again, import of coal declined continuously for the next two years to 215.25 MT in 2020-21 and 208.93 MT in 2021-22. During 2022-23, coal import was 237.67 MT.

The entire demand of coal is not met from domestic production as the supply of high quality coal/ coking coal (low-ash-coal) in the country is limited and thus no option is left but to resort to import of coking coal.

Coal imported by power plants designed on imported coal and high grade coal required for blending purposes also cannot be fully substituted by domestic coal. However, with enhanced domestic availability of coal, coal imports by power plants have fallen from 91.3 MT in 2014-15 to 27.00 in 2021-22. Further, during 2022-23, import of coal by power plants was to 55.63 MT.

Coal India Ltd (CIL)′s production has increased manifold over the years as is evident from the fact that its production has gone up from the level about 494.23 MT in 2014-15 to the level of about 703.213 MT in 2022-23 with a CAGR of around 4.51%. During 2022-23, coal production of CIL was 703.213 MT. CIL has now been mandated to produce 1 Billion Tonne (BT) coal by 2025-26 for which necessary action plan & steps have already been initiated.

CIL has now targeted to cater to the 100 MT of non-essential imports and shall need regulatory support for the purpose. Rests of the imports are mostly coking and high quality thermal coal which is not available in the country.

Further, CIL is in constant endeavour for phasing out conventional mining into highly mechanised mines, both OC & UG mines with the continuous process of coal winning deploying heavy equipments.

In addition to above, CIL has now envisaged to award long-term contracts and standardising equipments in case of mining contracts for coal & OB in case of HoEs.

Qn. 2 Substitution of Import with domestic coal:

Import substitution is one of the topmost priority of the Govt. of India. CIL is working in tandem with the Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) which has been constituted for the purpose. In order to reduce import of coal, the following measures have been taken by the Government to enhance the production of coal in the country:

i. Identification and development of new Coal blocks, including through captive and commercial route.
ii. Enactment of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2021 for enabling captive mine owners (other than atomic minerals) to sell up to 50% of their annual mineral (including coal) production in the open market after meeting the requirement of the end use plant linked with the mine in such manner as may be prescribed by the Central Government on payment of such additional amount.

iii Single Window Clearance portal for the coal sector to speed up the operationalization of coal mines.

iv. Project Monitoring Unit for handholding of coal block allottees for obtaining various approvals/clearances for early operationalization of coal mines.

v. Commercial auction of coal blocks on revenue sharing basis. Under commercial mining scheme, rebate of 50 % on final offer would be allowed for the quantity of coal produced earlier than scheduled date of production. Also, incentives on coal gasification or liquefaction (rebate of 50 % on final offer) have been granted.

vi. Coal India Limited is adopting Mass Production Technologies (MPT) in its Underground (UG) mines, mainly Continuous Miners (CMs), wherever feasible. Coal India Limited has also envisaged working large numbers of Highwalls (HW) mines in view of the availability of Abandoned/Discontinued mines. Coal India Limited is also planning large capacity UG mines wherever feasible.

vii. In Opencast (OC) mines, Coal India Limited has adopted State-of-the-Art technology through high capacity Excavators, Dumpers and Surface Miners.

viii. SCCL is expediting the activities to ground new 8 mines.

Qn. 3 Setting up of Coal Import Monitoring System:

There is substantive time lag in DGCIS providing import data. Consolidated import data is made available by DGCIS after a time lag of 2 to 2 ½ months while disaggregated data comes only after 3 to 3 ½ months. This time lag in receiving of data makes it completely useless for taking any policy decision and reducing imports. Therefore, a Coal Import Monitoring System has been created jointly with the help of Ministry of Commerce& Industry.

Advantage of Coal Import Monitoring System:

i. This system will be built in such a manner so that it will provide import information to Ministry of Coal as well as other coal industries at least 1.5 months in advance. This will enable them to plan their production and pricing strategy.
ii. The system will also provide information about exact grade of coal and the price on which it is proposed to be imported. As this information is not captured in the Bill of Entry, the exact information about the quantity and price of various grades of coals being imported is not available in the country.
iii. Price information (Minus importers details) can be placed in public domain which will help the coal companies in devising suitable pricing strategy.

"*The CIMS has been effective from 01.04.2021 i.e. Bill of Entry on or after 01.04.2021 for items as listed in this Notification shall be governed by CIMS. The facility of online Registration has been made available with effect from 15.02.2021*".

Till date (i.e. 09.05.2023) 10397 registrations under CIMS portal have been successfully registered.

Qn. 4 Note on Coal Demand

The scenario of all India demand of coal, production and import of coal during last five years is given below:-

(in million tones)

Table 2: Coal Demand/Supply (off-take)Source-wise (in MT)					
	2019-20	**2020-21**	**2021-22**	**2022-23**	**2022-23**
	Actual	**Actual**	**Actual**	**Estimated**	**Actual (P)**
Total Demand/supply	**955.72**	**906.13**	**1027.92**	**1087.00**	**1115.49**
A. Total Domestic Supply (of which)	**707.18**	**690.88**	**818.99**	**868.00**	**877.83**
(i) Supply: CIL	581.64	573.63	661.53	680.00	694.92
(ii) Supply: SCCL	62.47	48.51	65.53	68.00	66.79
(iii) Supply: Others	63.07	68.74	91.93	120.00	116.12
B. Import (of which)	**248.54**	**215.25**	**208.93**	**219.00**	**237.67**
(i) Coking Coal	51.83	51.20	57.16	60.00	56.05
(ii) Non-Coking Coal	196.71	164.05	151.77	159.00	181.62
Total Supply / Availability	**955.72**	**906.13**	**1027.92**	**1087.00**	**1115.49**
*P- Provisional (Source: CCO) * Upto Feb-23*					

Coal is imported to bridge the gap between domestic demand and domestic supply. As per coal import policy, the import of coal has been kept under Open General License (OGL) and users are free to import coal from the sources of their choice as per their contractual prices on payment of applicable duty. Superior quality non-coking coal is imported mainly by coast-based power plants and other industrial users viz., paper, sponge iron, cements and captive power plants, on consideration of transport logistics, commercial prudence, export entitlements and inadequate availability of such superior coal from indigenous sources.

It may be mentioned that in India, the supply of high quality coal (low-ash coal)/Coking coal is limited. Therefore, to bridge this demand-supply gap, there is no option but to resort to import of low-ash coal.

Further, Power plants designed on imported coal imported 20.53 MT in 2022-23. These are generally costal plants. 35.10 MT coal was imported by Power Plants for blending purpose. Both the above category of import by power plants is also non substitutable.

In order to reduce imports, Coal India Limited (CIL) has been directed to work out a definite action plan to ensure higher production and offtake in future. CIL has also been directed to ensure that necessary clearances for the existing coal mines are in place which will help in increasing the coal production in the short / medium term and also operationalzingthenewly allocated coal mines for further increasing production in the medium term. In addition, Under the provisions of the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 and Rules made there under, so far 109 coal mines have been successfully allocated. Of these 109 coal mines, 56 have been allocated through Electronic Auction and 53 have been allocated to Government Companies through Allotment which will also help in increasing production and reducing imports in the medium term.

It is pertinent to note that on the supply side, All India coal production has increased from 565.77 MT in 2013-14 to 893.081 MT in 2022-23. This increase in production has been able to contain the import to a large extent. Coal imports grown at the CAGR registered 22.86% between 2009 and 2014. At this rate of CAGR coal import during 2021-22 would have crossed 866.22 MT by 2021-22.

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LA&IR Section

(i) Land acquisition in CBA (A&D) Act, 1957

The Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition and Development) Act, 1957 (20 of 1957) provide for the acquisition of land containing or likely to contain coal deposits and for matters connected therewith. Under the provisions of this Act, the land is acquired for Government Companies only for coal mining and activities strictly incidental to mining purposes. For other requirements, like permanent infrastructure, offices, residence etc. the land is acquired under erstwhile L.A. Act, 1894. Mining rights and surface rights of a single patch of land may not be acquired under different Acts.

2. Under the provision of the said Act, initially Government declares appointment of competent authorities for different purposes [like prospecting, survey, dig, bore, compensation for damage done, hearing of objection, power to take possession of land and power to enter and inspect any property] under section 3 and then its intention to do exploration/ prospecting through a notification under Section 4(1). The validity period of notification under Section 4(1) is for two years, which can be extended by one more year through a separate notification.

3. Subsequently on completion of prospecting, by notification under Section 7(1) of the CBA Act, 1957 the Government declares its intention to acquire the land. The validity of notification under 7(1) is three years.

4. After the notification is issued under Section 7(1), Ministry invites objections, if any, from private land owners/ State Governments. On the disposal of objections, if any, filed by interested persons (land owners), by the Coal Controller's Office, the Government issues notification under Section 9(1) of the CBA Act for acquiring the land. Rights and titles of the land are vested to Coal PSUs / Govt. Company by notification under Section 11(1) of the CBA (A&D) Act, 1957. All notifications are issued to Govt. Press, for publication in the official Gazette of the Government of India, only after vetting by Legislative Department, Ministry of Law. Before referring it to Ministry of Law, approval of the Joint Secretary concerned in the Ministry of Coal is also taken for the subject proposal.

(ii) Constitution of Special Tribunal and Part-Time-Tribunals (PTTs) for determination of compensation of land oustees from whom land has been acquired by coal companies for their coal projects set up u/s 14(2) of Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition and Development) Act, 1957:

- **01 Special Tribunal at Nagpur (Maharshtra)-**
  The Special Tribunal at Nagpur consists of a person, who is or has been or is qualified to be a judge of High Court for the purpose of determining the amount.

- **Part-Time-Tribunals –**
  Part-Time-Tribunals are headed by District and Session Judge of the Districts concerned covering the coalfields of CIL subsidiaries. There are eight Part Time Tribunals set up in the coal brearing stastes.

(iii) Security arrangements by Coal Companies :

Electronic Surveillance through GPS/GPRS based Vehicle Tracking System. Geo-fencing of mine boundaries. Surveillance by CCTVs. Radio Frequency Identification Devices (RFID) based Boom Barriers and Readers. Weigh Bridge Installation, Coal Mine surveillance and Management System (CMSMS) and ‘Khan Prahari’ App.

(iv) Industrial Disputes:

Under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 M/o. Labour & Employment receives complaints from labourers or their Unions. M/o. L&E seek comments from Ministry of Coal on complaints related to this Ministry.MoC seek comments from concerned coal companies and if required, forward them to MoL&E. The above action is required to be completed within 30 days from receipt of complaint. For any reason, if the complaint is not attended within the stipulated period, then MoL&E refers the matter to CGIT.

(v) Grant of NOC to Coal PSUs for leasing of de-coaled land acquired under CBA (A&D) Act, 1957:

Requests for grant of NOC on lease baisis of CBA/LA land are received from coal companies in favour of State Govt. Deptts/CPSUs/State PSUs/Statutory Body & Private Companies. No provision available in CBA Act, 1957 for grant of NOC. Proposals are examined and approved on case by case basis as per guidelines of Cabinet Secretariat and in larger public interest like cases of rehabilitation of Project Affected People. Cabinet Secretariat vide their ID Note dated 13.1.2019 has clarified that transfer of land/alienation from subsidiaries of CPSEs to any other subsidiaries of CPSEs are permissible under ToB rules without necessarily requiring cabinet approval.

Ministry of Coal has issued a Policy Guidelines for use of land acquired under the CBA (A&D) Act, 1957 vide OM No. 43022/1/2022-LA&IR dated 22.4.2022. Main features of the Policy Guidelines are as follows:

a. Only the following types of lands will be considered:
b. Land which are no longer suitable or economically viable for coal mining activities: or
c. Land from which coal has been mined out/de-coaled and such land has been reclaimed.

The land will be considered for the following coal infrastructure development activities and for such period of lease as mentioned against each activity:

a. to set up coal washeries (maximum lease period 30 years) ;
b. to set up Conveyor System (maximum lease period 30 years);
c. to establish Coal Handling Plants (maximum lease period 30 years);
d. to construct Railway Sidings (maximum lease period 30 years);
e. Rehabilitation and Resettlement of project Affected Families due to acquisition of land under the CBA (A&D) Act, 1957 or other land acquisition laws (maximum lease period 99 years);
f. to set up thermal and renewable power projects (maximum lease period 35 years);
g. to set up or provide for coal development related infrastructure including afforestation (maximum period 99 years), project office (maximum lease period 30 years), etc.
h. to provide right to way (in case of railway line and highway 99 years, and in other cases maximum lease period 30 years of life of infrastructure whichever is Lower);
i. Coal gasification and coal to chemical plants (maximum lease period 35 years);
j. Coal bed methane (CBM) extraction (maximum lease period 30 years or as may be allowed by the Government to the CBM concession holder); and
K. to set up or provide for energy related infrastucture.

(vi) Illegal Mining of Coal Companies:

Illegal mining of coal is reported to be carried out mainly from abandoned mines, shallow coal seams situated at remote/isolated places from the mines and are scattered over a large area. It is a Law and Order problem which is a State subject, hence primarily; falls under the domain of the State/District administration to take necessary deterrent action to stop/curb illegal mining of coal. The management of subsidiary companies lodges FIR with local Thana to take necessary action. State/District administration take further action against the lodged FIR. Coal India Limited endeavors to obtain all statutory clearances/licenses before commencement of coal production. During the course of coal production all statutory provisions under various Acts, Rules and Regulations are observed for conducting various activities. As such, there is no illegal mining in the lease-hold areas of Coal India Limited.

(vii) Constitution of JBCCI for the workmen of CIL and its subsidiaries and pay revision of Executives

Ministry of Coal, vide letter, dated 6th May, 2021, approved proposal of CIL for constitution of a Joint Bipartite Committee for Coal Industry (JBCCI) for finalization of National Coal Wage Agreement (NCWA)-XI in the light of guidelines for wage negotiation of workmen of CPSEs as approved by the Union Cabinet and circulated by DPE. NCWA-XI will be signed by CIL and SCCL and CTUs

At present, wages of workmen are as per NCWA-X, which is effective from 1st July, 2016. JBCCI in its 3rd meeting held on 16.02.2022 at New Delhi decided periodicity of NCWA-XI for 5 years w.e.f. 01.07.2021 and again w.e.f. 1st July, 2026. On the other hand, the pay revision of Executives is done at the interval of 10 years. It was last done with effect from 1st January, 2017 (concluded at a later date) and may be taken up w.e.f. 1st January, 2027 again.

(vii) **Engagement of contractual workers/labourers.**

The Coal companies outsource mining activities to outside/private agencies. The outsourcing companies hire contractual workers/labourers for mining activities. Wages to their workers are paid by the outsourcing agencies at rates recommended by the High Power Committee, which is the mid wage prescribed by the Central Government under Minimum Wage Act, 1948 and the wages payable to the lowest category of regular workers at CIL, i.e., Category-I of NCWA. HPC wages are higher than the Central Government prescribed minimum wages. The contractual workers/labourers contribute towards Coal Mines Provident Fund.

SDC/S&JT

Section

Question: 1. Give brief note on Sustainability of coal mining.

Ans: Coal has remained the main stay of India′s Energy sector over the years and even today it is the backbone of India′s energy sector with about 50% share in primary energy supply and about 75% share in total electricity generation. Further, coal is also used in production of about 65% of steel and 90% of cement in the country. Many other manufacturing industries also use coal as their feed stock.

Although burning of coal involves release of CO2 and other air pollutants, but given the present priorities of the country, we cannot stop using coal in the foreseeable future. With India's aim to become a Five Trillion Dollar economy by 2025, we would need more coal for generation of power and also for production of steel and cement to meet the needs of infrastructure development.
In India, the transition away from coal is not happening in foreseeable future. Although India is pushing for renewable/non-fossil-based energy, but the share of coal in the energy basket is going to remain significant in years ahead. India is augmenting its coal production for meeting the increasing energy needs. Total coal consumption in India is yet to peak. The Economic Survey 2022-23 also projects to reach a production level of 1 billion tonnes by FY26 and about 1.5 billion tonnes by 2030 from the production level of 892 MT in FY 2022-23. As per one of the assessments of NITI Aayog, although there may be 10 % drop in share of Coal in Primary energy supply in 2035 (BAU) but quantum of coal demand may rise 1.40 time due to increased energy demand driven by rising economy. The IEA also estimates that the share of coal in the overall energy mix steadily declines to 34% in 2040; however, overall demand for coal still remains stronger to meet the rising energy demand of rapidly developing economy. So, any coal transition and related activities are not envisaged both in short and medium term. Thus, despite the thrust on renewable, coal is going to continue as a primary source of energy to meet the growing development needs of India because in Indian perspective, coal becomes more important as it not only meets the energy demand but also provides affordability and energy security due to availability of substantial indigenous reserve.

It is evident from the above that burning of coal is going to stay for a considerable period to meet the rising energy demand of the country to enable it in meeting its various development priorities such as alleviation of poverty, providing electricity to all households, ensuring basic necessities of life for all, such as food and nutrition, potable drinking water, access to sanitation, health and education facilities, good housing and so on. **And therefore, Coal mining in India is going to continue to meet the growing energy demand.**

Need for adoption of Sustainable Mining Model

Literally speaking 'Sustainability' means the 'ability to sustain something'. Sustainable development' is 'development that can be maintained. However, the most widely accepted definition of sustainable development is provided in the Brundtland Report of World Commission of Environment and Development — ′***development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs′***. This implies future generations have rights over resources and current generation has a duty to include future generationsʹ needs in its decision-making.

Can the above concept of sustainable development be applied to the mineral sector? Is it possible to mine the finite reserves of minerals and also remain sustainable in true sense? In the mineral sector, sustainable development means that investments in minerals projects should be financially profitable, technically appropriate, environmentally sound and socially responsible.

Thus, as coal mining in India will progress in future to meet the growing energy demand, it will have to adopt a sustainable model ensuring preservation of climate for healthy living of present and future generations, caring for people around mining areas and ample thrust on safety, conservation and energy efficiency.

Initiatives by Indian Coal Sector to promote sustainable mining

Creating a Sustainable Development Cell at Ministry and company level

Ministry of Coal has established a ʹSustainability & Just Transition Divisionʹ in order to promote environmentally sustainable coal mining in the country and address environmental concerns during the decommissioning or closure of mines. The Sustainable & Just Transition Division (S & JT) advises, mentors, plans and monitors the mitigation measures taken by the coal companies for maximising the utilisation of available resources in a sustainable way, minimising the adverse impact of mining and mitigating it for further ecosystem services. This will also formulate the future policy framework for the environmental mitigation measures including the Mine closure framework based on Just Transition principles.

On similar lines, Coal PSUs have also established Sustainable Development Cells at HQ and Area levels for monitoring and implementation of EC/FC conditions and adoption of best practices in environmental management.

Caring for Environment

Coal Sector has been taking several initiatives to showcase its commitment towards nurturing the nature and keeping an acceptable environment in coalfields:

<u>On Policy front</u>

- ➢ System for continuous monitoring of environmental parameters and uploading of all monitoring data on Companyʹs web page
- ➢ Reducing pollution load & carbon footprint by **efficient management of coal transport**
  - ✓ **Rationalisation of Coal Linkages**: Transport distance reduced by rationalization of coal movement – cost saving and reduction in carbon footprint
  - ✓ Replacing road transport by commissioning of **new Rail links.**
- ➢ **Environmental audit and ecological study of mines by reputed 3rd party**

<u>Sustainable Initiatives in Coal Sector</u>

- **Mine Water Management**: Rain water harvesting, mine water utilization for domestic and agriculture purposes, water recycling plants etc. Sewage treatment plants/oil & lubricant traps/sedimentation tanks to check water pollution
- **Reclamation of mined out area/ Greening Initiatives**
- **Development of Parks/lakes/ponds in and around mining areas and Eco- Tourism**
- **Alternative usage of overburden**
- **Energy Efficiency Measures**
- **Air Quality Management in Coal Sector-** Deploying Mist sprinklers, fog canons, wheel washing, mechanical road sweepers and using dust binders for dust suppression and CAAQMS for monitoring.
- **Exploring Use of LNG in HEMM:** MoU signed with GAIL for utilizing LNG in dumpers. Study under progress in Lakhanpur OC of MCL. Retrofitting work for both the dumpers has been completed. Peso certification has been received. Data collection on diesel for comparison with LNG is in progress. Based on the outcome of the pilot project, adoption of LNG for dual fuel operation in other dumpers of CIL will be decided.
- **Publication of Reports, E-Books, Short films etc.**
- **Development of Mine Closure Framework based on Just Transition Principles**
- **Compilation of best practices and replication of the same in other mines –** Ministry is in the process of compiling best sustainable practices in the form of an E-book for reference of all concerned and to facilitate replication of good practices elsewhere.
- **Publication of periodical sustainability reports –** Every year coal companies are publishing a sustainability report covering various activities/programs taken up to promote sustainability in coal mines.

Initiatives on social front

What the public thinks about a company is critical to its success. By building a positive image of company can make a name as being socially conscious and responsible. Companies in coal sector, through their various social and environmental programs are trying to demonstrate their good corporate citizenship and rebranding their image.

Question 2: Brief note on Mine Water Utilization in Coal/Lignite Sector.

Ans: For a country which has been struggling with water scarcity, every attempt to manage and conserve water matters. Intersection of aquifers during mining results in accumulation of water in mine pits. The accumulated mine water needs to be pumped outside the mine to facilitate smooth conduct of mining operation. In mines of CIL, SCCL and NLCIL about 8350 lakh Kilo Litres of mine water is pumped out annually, which translates into an average discharge of about 23 lakh Kilo litres per day.

Several initiatives are being taken for augmenting the gainful utilization of mine water such as:

- Substituting a considerable volume of water drawn from conventional sources for industrial and domestic use by Collieries
- Supply of mine water to local community for domestic and agriculture use after needful treatment
- Utilization of mine water for ground water recharge by collecting in surface ponds

Mine water utilization during 2021-22

During 2021-22, status of mine water utilization in the mines of CIL, SCCL and NLCIL has been as under:

Volume in Lakh Kilo Litres (LKL)						
Company	**Total Volume**	**Own use**	**Community use (Domestic)**	**Community use (Irrigation)**	**Total community use**	**Groundwater recharge / discharge into natural streams**
CIL	5974.64	2831.89	1023.49	1668.08	2691.57	451.18
NLCIL	1064.84	663.84	150.40	250.60	401.00	0.00
SCCL	1090.03	453.00	20.03	617.00	637.03	0.00
Total	8129.51	3948.73	1193.92	2535.68	3729.60	451.18

Volume of community water supplied for domestic use has been 1194 LKL thereby benefitting about 17,67,775 people.

Volume of community water supplied for irrigation purpose has been 2535.7 LKL thereby creating irrigation potential of about 2.53 lakh Acres [@ 42 Ha/Lakh KL (Annual) with 3 irrigation cycles of 6.25 cm water depth each.]

Mine Water Utilization Target – 2023-24

As envisaged in 5 year Vision Document of MoC, target for 2023-24 is to augment the total community water supply to 4250 Lakh Kilo litres thereby enhancing the irrigation potential to 3,18,750 Acres and covering additional population with supply of drinking water @ 15 LPCD.

MoU with State Authorities for Mine Water Utilization

CIL subsidiaries (CCL, BCCL, ECL, SECL and WCL), NLCIL and SCCL have signed MoUs with State Govt./agencies for ensuring utilization of each drop of water by creation of appropriate infrastructure and proper distribution of treated mine water. Subsidiaries have identified sources of mine water and are in constant touch with the state Govt. Authorities for implementation of MoU. Timely co-operation from the State Authorities in preparation and execution of mine water utilization schemes is very important.

Thus, the efforts of coal/lignite PSUs not only reduce water foot prints on fresh water regimes but also help to ensure water security of nearby villages and facilitate ground water recharge.

Question 3: Brief note on Greening Initiatives/ Reclamation of mined out areas in Coal/Lignite Sector

Ans: Coal/lignite PSUs have not only enhanced their production level over the years to meet the rising energy demand of the country but also shown their sensitivity and care towards native environment by adopting various mitigation measures including reclamation of mined out areas and extensive plantation in and around coal bearing areas.

Mined out areas, OB dumps and other disturbed areas are concurrently reclaimed as soon as they get delinked from active mining zone. Topsoil is segregated and stored in clearly demarcated area for use within the mine as soon the backfilling and concurrent reclamation starts. Three tier biological reclamation in both external and internal dumps is undertaken through expert agencies i.e. State Forest Development Corporations. Species for biological reclamation are selected in consultation with expert agencies like SFDC, ICFRE, NEERI etc.

Coal/lignite PSUs have envisaged to bring about 30,000 Ha of addition area (in and around coalfields) under plantation by 2030, thus enhancing the carbon sink significantly. Achievements of Coal/Lignite PSUs on the front of Bio-reclamation of mined-out areas and plantation in free areas in and around coal mines:

- Coal/Lignite PSUs have brought about 2370 Ha land under green cover by plantation of around 50 lakhs saplings during FY 2022-23.
- Cumulative achievement of 8160 Ha and plantation of 182 lakh saplings until FY 2022-23 against the target of 7600 Ha & 176 lakh plants for FY2019-20 to FY2022-23.

Question 4: Brief note on Eco-Tourism in mining area

Ans: Mining areas, after exhaustion of coal reserves, offer good potential for promoting tourism by developing eco-parks, sites for water sports, underground visits, golf grounds, avenues for recreation, adventure, bird watching etc. Over the years, Coal/Lignite PSUs have developed more than 27 eco-parks by undertaking sustainable mine closure practices. These mining sites are now stable, environmentally sustainable and present a very beautiful site aesthetically.

Some of these sites have already been integrated with local tourism circuit and coal companies are consulting the respective State tourism departments for integration of other parks. These sites are expected to generate revenue for self-sustenance and create employment potential for local people.

- NLCIL signed MOU with Pondicherry Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC) on 05.10.2022 to promote eco-tourism at Mine-I and Mine-II and showcase sustainable mining activities.
- NCL signed MOU with Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board to boost Singrauli Eco-Tourism Circuit.
- WCL signed MOU with Directorate of Tourism, Maharashtra to promote Eco-tourism.

Development of eco-parks/tourism sites to promote mine tourism is one of the key thrust areas of S& JT Section of MoC and coal companies. Coal/Lignite PSUs have completed 8 eco-parks in last 4 years. In coming 4-5 years, it has been envisaged to create 30 new eco-parks/tourism sites and take up expansion of 9 existing eco-parks. The sites for eco-parks have been identified and process has already been initiated by coal companies.

Question 5: Brief note on Alternative Usages of Overburden

Ans: Coal/Lignite PSUs has taken an out of box initiative to produce sand from overburden at a much cheaper price and usages of processed OB for stowing purpose. This will not only help in minimising environmental pollution due to sand siltation from overburden, but will be also an option for getting cheaper sand for construction purpose. The use of overburden minimises the volume of land required for overburden dump and also lowers the adverse footprint of river bed mining of sand.

In this effort, Coal/Lignite PSUs has commissioned 4 OB processing plants and 4 OB to sand Plants. 7 such plants are in the different stages of installation in the Coal/Lignite PSUs. This effort will not only help the society at large but will also help in minimising river bed mining of sand.

Question 6: Brief note on Energy conservation.

Ans: With the growth of economy, the demand for energy has grown substantially. In such a scenario efficient use of energy resources and their conservation assume tremendous significance and are essential for curtailment of wasteful consumption and sustainable development. Efficient use of energy and its conservation assumes even greater importance in view of the fact that one unit of energy saved at the consumption level reduces the need for fresh capacity creation by 2 to 2.5 times. Further, such saving through efficient use of energy can be achieved at less than one-fifth the cost of fresh capacity creation. Most importantly, energy conservation also translates into reduction of carbon footprint.

The goal of energy conservation techniques is to reduce demand, protect and replenish supplies, and to develop and use alternative energy sources.

Like other industries, coal mining also involves consumption of energy – electrical as well as fossil fuel. In a coal mining area, energy consumption and pollution emissions are produced in each step of coal mining, processing, and transportation and are influenced by many factors, such as type of mining, production quantity, equipment used, pollution control measures installed etc. The offices, residential buildings, industrial infrastructures also consume substantial quantum of energy. So the energy conservation through efficient practices will be one of the important ways to minimize energy consumption and to meet the increasing energy demand.

Coal companies going for energy conservation measures

Conservation of energy always remains a priority area of coal/lignite PSUs and they adopt various measures towards conservation of energy such as Reducing electricity /diesel consumption by taking appropriate measures after comprehensive energy audit, Replacing conventional lights by LED lights, Replacing conventional ACs and other appliances by energy efficient Star rated appliances, Installation of capacitor banks and other measures to improve power factor, Use of auto-timers in street lights, Use of Energy efficient pumps (EESL), Deploying E-Vehicles (EESL). Some of the measures taken by coal/lignite companies for energy conservation are stated below:

Coal India Limited

The following additional measures have been taken towards energy conservation in different areas of CIL.

- High wattage luminaries /conventional light fittings have been replaced with low power consuming LEDs of appropriate wattage in majority of the places for street lighting, office and other work places, townships etc., thereby resulted huge saving potential in electricity consumption. In last 5 years more than 5.0 lakh LED lights have been installed in different Areas and during FY 2022-23, additional 157216 LED light have been installed.
- Further, during FY 2022-23, 1679 energy efficient ACs, 18626 high energy efficient super fans, 71 e-vehicles, 625 energy efficient water heaters, 169 existing old motors have been replaced with energy efficient motors and 1016 auto timers have been installed at different places in CIL subsidiaries.
- CIL has signed MOU with EESL to implement Energy Efficiency Programs at CIL and Subsidiaries. This shall cover Building Energy Efficiency Projects (BEEP) for 25 buildings , Replacement of old fans, ACs and conventional light fittings, motors, adoption of e-vehicle, installation of distributed and rooftop solar projects.
- 10 electrical energy audits were conducted by CMPDIL for different subsidiaries of CIL in 2022-23.
- Almost all the areas of the subsidiary companies have maintained Power Factors from 0.90 to 0.99 during 2022-23 by installing capacitor banks. During FY-2022-23, 54690 KVAR of capacitor banks have been installed at subsidiaries.
- Overhead line had been replaced by Arial bunch cable, wherever possible, to avoid unauthorized hooking.
- Reorganization of township power distribution and merging of commercial load with domestic load for saving in power bill wherever possible.
- To reduce peak demand of power availed TOD incentive.
- Eliminate stage pumping/ intermediate pumping to reduce energy loss, use of proper size of suction and delivery line as per design to avoid throttling.
- Construction of UG surge bunker to avoid ideal running of belt.
- Installation of auto timer switch in street light circuit.
- Promoting renewables: CIL has installed more than 11.36 MW and planned to install additional 3000 MW by 2024-25.

SCCL

The following energy conservation techniques were implemented in SCCL in view of its scarcity and its impact on sustainability of global eco systems:

a) **Switched to Solar:** In view of energy conservation, recently SCCL shifted to Renewable Energy Solar Plants. So far, 224 MW solar plants are commissioned. Another 76 MW Solar Plants commissioning is under progress. Approval for another 250 MW Solar plants is under process.

b) **Energy Audit:** Energy auditing conducted by an accredited energy auditor in a specified manner in different mines of SCCL regularly and done re-organization of dewatering pumps and coal transport belts in underground mines as per their recommendations.

c) **Fixing of Energy Meters: 20,000 Nos.** Energy meters fixed in residential quarters and specified energy consumption standards for notified equipment & appliances for controlling energy consumption utilization.

d) **Lighting:** Purchased and replaced different capacities of LED lights in place of conventional lighting in different areas of SCCL. All coal corridors highway lighting in SCCL are replaced with LED Lights. Planned further for procurement to make 100 percent replacement of conventional lighting.

e) **Reducing Maximum demand:** Through regular monitoring, Contracted Maximum Demand was reduced as per required usage and the same is furnished here under as on 31.03.2023.

Sl No	Service Connection No	Initial CMD (KVA)	Required/ Existing CMD (KVA)	Reduced CMD (KVA)	AREA	CAT	Remarks
1	MCL-022	16000	13000	3000	MM	VI	
2	PDL-023	14000	12000	2000	RG3	VI	
3	BKM-10	10000	8000	2000	MNG	I	
4	MCL-127	100	40	60	MM	II	
5	PDL-014	4000	nil	4000	RG1	I	Mine CLOSED
6	BKM.169	300	240	60	YLD	II	
7	BPL.098	150	120	30	BHPL	II	
	Total CMD Reduced=11150 KVA(11.15MVA)						

f) Energy efficient appliances: All the housed appliances utilised in residential colonies are made mandatory to purchase 5 Star rated. Accordingly purchased 5 Star rated Air conditioners, Refrigerators, Ceiling Fans, Water Coolers etc.,. Details furnished hereunder.

Sl.No.	Description	Quantity in Nos.
01	LED Light Fittings	47,728
02	5 Star Energy efficiency Air Conditioners	1,750
03	5 Star Energy efficiency Ceiling Fans	33,618
04	Geysers/Water Heaters	1,200
05	Capacitor Bank	100
06	Auto timers	803

g) Lower the room temperature: As per the guide lines from Central Ministry, temperature setting of the room Air conditioner is fixed at 26°C throughout the Company and issued Circular accordingly.

h) Street Light Timers: Using street light timers in street lighting in all areas by fixing specified timings as per guidelines given from Director (E&M).

i) VFD Drives: Purchased various types of VFD Drives for belts, Ventilation Fans, Submersible pumps & Haulers for reducing the current consumption.
j) To avail TOD incentive, advised all the concerned to differ power consumption in peak hours.
k) Maintaining 0.99 to Unity Power Factor in all areas by installing about 100Nos. of Capacitor Banks.

NLCIL

Being a responsible power producing organization, NLCIL in an endeavour to move towards conservation of energy has taken several steps both on domestic front and Industrial side. Following are major actions taken by NLCIL.

1. Solar lighting systems with WCFL fitting being installed in Mines.
2. In Township, programmable street light controllers and street light timer were installed in place of conventional type street light on/off switches. Switching On/Off of street lights are with programmable time switches. This is mainly to use of daylight to the maximum extent.
3. Solar water heaters are installed in General Hospital in the Renal care Unit, which saves lot of electrical energy.
4. Hydro couplings being used in pumps resulting in power saving
5. Energy saving variable voltage variable frequency (VVF) controls have been introduced in machines.
6. Regular Monitoring of mining and allied activities to meet the energy conservation norms.

On Domestic Front

a. The conventional lights are being replaced with contemporary energy LED lamps.
b. Solar water heaters have been installed in place of conventional heaters.
c. Roof top solar panels have been erected in the non-residential township buildings

On Industrial Front

- In mines, Dynamic load conveyor system has been introduced to reduce the running time of conveyor drive head motors.
- Wherever required for general lighting, LED lamps have been introduced.

a. Capacitor banks are being introduced in a phased manner for Bucket wheel Excavators, MTC and spreaders, which will lead to improvement of power factor and reducing reactive power energy losses. The energy conservation with the introduction of capacitor banks from Bucket wheel Excavators, MTC and spreaders in mines are as below:

Year	Energy savings in units
2022-23	907611

Measures have been taken to reduce consumption of diesel in various sectors in the areas of operation of surface transport vehicles, cranes etc.

NLCIL and Coal India Limited have signed joint venture agreement on 03.07.2020 for implementing Solar Power Projects. Keeping pace with the changing business trends, NLCIL has diversified into renewable energy. As green technology initiatives, it has installed 1421 MW renewable power including 51 MW Wind Turbine generations in Tirunelveli District, Tamil Nadu.

- During the Financial Year 2022-23, by adopting energy conservation measures, about 32.03 Million Units of energy was conserved.
- As an alternative fuel, Lignite to Diesel conversion is being considered as a R&D project.
- As an alternative fuel, Lignite to Methanol conversion is being considered as a pilot project.
- Energy audit was conducted in all three mines in NLCIL in FY2021-22.

- Internal Energy consumption of NLCIL for the FY 2022-23 was only 91.67 MW against allocated quantity of 171 MW.
- As measure of lighting audit population enumeration of lighting was carried out using in-house expertise.
- E-vehicles are being introduced for deployment in various industrial and service units for transportation of materials
- In Regional offices 6 e-vehicles are hired for transportation of men.

CSR&W Section

Question.1 Brief note on Corporate Social Responsibility Policy of Coal India Limited (CIL)

Ans. Coal India Limited (CIL)aims to adopt Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) as a strategic tool for sustainable growth. To achieve this goal, CIL has formulated its CSR policy to lay down guidelines for CIL and its subsidiaries to make CSR a key business process. CSR policy of CIL has been framed in line with the relevant provisions of Companies Act 2013, CSR Rules and their amendments and guidelines issued by DPE from time to time. CSR policy of CIL covers the following aspects:

1. Fund Allocation

Subsidiaries of CIL have to allocate either 2% of the average net profit of the 3 immediately preceding financial years or Rs. 2 per tonne of that subsidiary's coal production of the immediately preceding year, whichever is higher, for CSR activities in a particular year. For CIL (HQ), the total coal production of immediate preceding financial year of those subsidiaries of CIL which had not incurred net loss in the immediately preceding financial year is considered to arrive at the latter. The activities that can be undertaken under CSR are as per the Schedule VII to Section 135 of the Companies Act 2013. Unspent amount of a particular year is accounted for as per the provisions specified in the amendments to the Companies Act 2013.

2. Areas covered

Subsidiaries of CIL spend 80% of their CSR fund for activities in the radius of 25 kms. of the project sites/mines/area HQ/company HQ. The rest 20% fund is spent in their respective states of operation. CIL, being the holding company, undertakes CSR activities in whole of India, including the areas covered by subsidiaries.

3. Scope

Scope of the policy specifies the activities which can be undertaken for utilization of CSR funds. The scope is in accordance with Schedule VII of Companies Act 2013. The region in and around CIL projects are remote and less developed, the emphasis of CSR activities is on providing basic amenities in these regions. A major portion of CSR fund has been spent in the following areas:

- Healthcare
- Education
- Rural development projects
- Environmental sustainability
- Promotion of sports

Other than these areas, CIL has also focused on Environmental sustainability, conservation of natural resources and disaster management in recent years.

4. Institutional arrangement for implementation

CIL and each of its subsidiaries have a CSR department to plan and monitor CSR activities. CIL has posted officers specialized in community development for execution of CSR activities who are responsible for these projects from their conception to conclusion. Area level CSR committees also function in the subsidiaries to formulate action plans according to the needs of local community.For scrutiny of projects, below board level committees are functional which have HODs of departments like CSR, Civil, Medical, Welfare, Finance etc. as its members. There are Board Level Committees on CSR at CIL and each of its subsidiaries which contain at least one independent director. These committees along with company boards approve projects, provide guidance and conduct review of CSR activities. CSR projects are implemented through direct contracts, govt. institutes/departments and eligible NGOs.

5. Selection of projects / activities

Yearly action plans are prepared to address the immediate needs of the people living in and around the projects mines. Opinions of beneficiaries and their representatives are considered while framing the action plans. Projects received directly from implementing agencies are also considered based on the merits of the projects. Recommendations of development projects from public representatives are sent to the concerned District Administration to obtain detailed project reports and ensure that there is no duplication of work.Proposals are examined either departmentally or by some external reputed agencies for their eligibility. Their recommendations are deliberated by an internal committee at different levels depending on the value of the work. On clearance by the committee(s), proposals are put up for the approval of competent authority.

6. Monitoring mechanism

Monitoring, field inspection and review by respective CSR departments are conducted periodically. Board level committee on CSR review the implementation of CSR activities from time to time. Internal Audit department also visits CSR projects as per their schedule.

6. (i) Performance since 2014-15

The fund allocation and utilization by CIL and its subsidiaries combined from 2014-15 to 2022-23 is furnished in the following table:

Financial Year	Statutory Requirement – as per Companies Act, 2013	Actual CSR Expenditure
2014-15	Rs. 463.26 crores	Rs. 298.11 crores
2015-16	Rs. 465.23 crores	Rs. 1,076.07 crores*
2016-17	Rs. 442.75 crores	Rs. 489.67 crores
2017-18	Rs. 383.05 crores	Rs. 483.78 crores
2018-19	Rs. 353.98 crores	Rs. 416.47 crores
2019-20	Rs. 396.20 crores	Rs. 587.84crores
2020-21	Rs. 434.51crores	Rs. 553.85 crores
2021-22	Rs. 450.63crores	Rs. 264.21crores
2022-23	**Rs. 444.59crores**	**Rs. 480.20 crores**

* ***Expenditure is much more than budgeted amount due to amount spent on construction of school toilets under SwachhVidyalayaAbhiyan** Subject to audit***

(i) The fund allocation and utilization by **NLCIL and its subsidiary company** in 2022-23 is furnished in the following table:

Financial Year	Statutory Requirement – as per Companies Act, 2013	Actual CSR Expenditure
2022-23	**Rs. 47.09crores**	**Rs. 43.895 crores**

8. Major activities undertaken

Major CSR activities undertaken by CIL and its subsidiaries during the last five years are:

1. Construction/renovation of toilets in govt. schools of six states – Chattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya

Pradesh, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal in year 2014-15 and 2015-16.

2. Contribution towards NITI Aayog's project for transformation of aspirational districts in Chattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal since 2018-19. A total of 24 districts have been allotted to CIL and subsidiaries in total.
3. Construction of 525 bedded home 'Premashraya' for outstation patients of Tata Medical Center, Kolkata in year 2015-16.
4. Construction of 500 bedded hospital and 100 seater medical college at Talcher, Odisha is going on and is expected to be completed shortly.
5. Training 2000 students in plastic engineering trades through Central Institute of Plastic Engineering and Technology (CIPET) with over 80% placement ratio has been completed during years 2018-19 and 2019-20. Second phase of the programme has commenced in 2020-21 for 3,000 more students.
6. A total contribution of Rs. 84.62 cr. to HariharChattisgarh scheme for plantation of trees alongside highways during years 2015-16 to 2018-19.
7. Contribution to disaster relief funds such as
   a. Prime Minister Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations Fund (PM-CARES) – Rs. 100 cr. in year 2019-20. In addition, Rs. 121 cr. were also contributed to PM-CARES fund which included Rs. 61 cr. from employees' one day's wages.
   b. Support to Odisha Power Transmission Corporation Ltd. for reinstallation of power transmission lines damaged due to cyclone Fani – Rs. 50.32 cr. in year 2019-20.
      c. Contribution of Rs. 90.00 cr. to disaster management authorities of different operational states of CIL in year 2020-21.
8. Support towards control and relief measures of COVID –19 in 2019-20 and 2020-21.
9. Providing basic infrastructure facilities such as hand pumps, school classrooms, community halls, roads, check dams, mobile medical vans etc. in surrounding areas of mines are some of the regular CSR activities at subsidiaries of CIL.
10. Operation and maintenance of sports academy at Hotwar, Ranchi in association with Jharkhand State Govt. for identifying and training sports talents of Jharkhand since 2016-17.
11. Treatment of Thalassemia major by providing an assistance of up to Rs. 10.00 lakhs per patient for Bone Marrow Transplants (BMTs) in eight major hospitals of the country since 2017-18. In the second phase of the project which commenced in 2020-21, aplastic anemia has been added to the scope of the project.
12. Contribution of Rs. 25 cr. (Total Project Cost: Rs. 75 cr.) to National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) towards construction of 3 hostels for sportspersons to better utilize the sports infrastructure.
13. Installation of 25 oxygen plants in 25 govt. hospitals under Mission PraanaVayu to ensure round the clock medical oxygen supply for COVID-19 and other patients.
14. Piped Water Supply Schemes for 35 villages of Talcher and Kaniha Block of Angul district, Odisha at a cost of Rs. 55 cr.

Question: 2. Brief note on contribution of Coal India Limited under CSR towards tribal sub-plan (TSP).

About Tribal Sub Plan (TSP)

TSP is a strategy introduced by the government to ensure the socio-economic development of tribal people of India. TSP aims to bridge the gap between the Schedule Tribes (STs) and the general population with respect to all socio-economic development indicators in a time-bound manner. The objectives of TSP are as under:

- To reduce poverty and unemployment of tribal people.
- To eradicate the exploitation and develop the remote areas.
- To improve the life there by providing adequate health and educational services.
- To provide physical and financial security against any kind of oppression and exploitation.

Similarity of CIL's CSR objectives with TSP

Coal India Ltd. operates its mines in eight states of the country through seven subsidiary mining companies. All these states have significant tribal population. Six of these states i.e. Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Jharkhand, Chattisgarh and West Bengal are among the ten states with highest tribal population (Source: Census 2011 data).

The objective of Corporate Social Responsibility activities of CIL is to enhance the welfare of the society with priority being given to the people residing in close proximity to its mines. These activities are aimed at providing basic amenities in these areas and improve the quality of life of these people. Since CIL operates in states with significant tribal population, there exists a similarity of CIL's CSR objectives with TSP. CIL and its subsidiaries undertake different activities under sectors like healthcare, education, sanitation, supply of drinking water, rural development projects, promotion of sports etc.

Contribution of CIL towards TSP

The underprivileged people residing around the mining areas and in the states of operation are primary beneficiaries of these activities in case of subsidiary companies. As per the CSR policy of CIL, 80% of the CSR fund of the subsidiaries for any year is spent in the radius of 25 kms. around the mines/projects and the rest 20% in the state(s) of operation. Since CIL is operating in states with high tribal population, tribal people form a significant part of the beneficiaries in most of these CSR projects.

The major projects undertaken in these areas are as follows:

1. A majority of the toilets constructed/renovated by CIL and its subsidiaries under SwachhVidyalayaAbhiyan are in the above six states.

2. CIL has undertaken various development works in Purulia district, West Bengal which include:

a) Providing renewable energy based solutions to the energy needs of 9000 households – Solar Household Lights, Improved Cook Stoves and Solar Street Lights

b) Construction of 5,660 households toilets to make the Neturia block of Purulia district Open Defecation Free (ODF)

c) Agriculture, Greening and Capacity Building initiatives for 1250 farmers

d) Setting up of Knowledge cum Recreational Centres (KRCs) in 40 schools

3. CCL along with Jharkhand State Govt. has set up one Sports Academy at Hotwar, Ranchi with an objective of harnessing the sports talent of the state to nurture potential medal winners. Currently, there are 400 students which are provided education, training and other facilities in different sports, mostly from tribal villages.

4. CCL is running a scheme – CCL keLal and CCL Ki Laadli for coaching meritorious students of Jharkhand for engineering entrance examinations. Since the inception of the scheme, 250 students have got admissions into IITs, NITs and other reputed engineering colleges.

5. Distribution of 12,000 bicycles to households (mostly tribals) in Nuapada, Odisha for providing means of mobility and helping in livelihood generation has been completed by CIL in year 2016-17.

6. MCL is constructing a 500 bedded hospital and 100 seater medical college - Mahanadi Institute of Medical Sciences and Research (MIMSR) at Talcher, Odisha.

7. CIL along with BHEL and Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) has set up Kabiguru Industrial Training Centre (KGITC) in Bolpur, West Bengal for imparting skill development training to local youth. Financial support to KGITC towards starting of new trades viz. Plumbing and Dress Making has also been provided.

8. Water, sanitation and poverty alleviation project in BolpurShantiniketan block of Birbhum district, West Bengal benefitting more than 1000 persons has been undertaken by CIL in year 2016-17. It involves construction of toilets, renovation of ponds and income generation activities through formation of Self Help Groups (SHGs) and providing financial support to them.

9. SECL has constructed JanjatiKalyan Kendra – a hostel and library facility for tribal students at Umaria and Dindori districts of Madhya Pradesh in year 2017-18. SECL is also providing financial support for nutritious food for 3 years of 75 students staying in the hostel.

10. CIL is constructing a hostel for tribal students at Akola, Maharashtra. The project started in year 2019-20 and is likely to get completed by end of FY 20-21.

11. CIL has contributed Rs. 2.05 cr. for providing desks and benches in govt. schools of Shahdol district through Dept. of Tribal Welfare, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh.

12. CIL, CCL and CMPDIL are helping towards social upliftment and skill development of Dhuku tribe of Khunti district in Jharkhand.

13. CIL is supporting hundred EkalVidyalayas in 4 aspirational districts with high % of tribal population.

14. CIL is providing financial support for building of Himalayan Institute of Alternatives in Ladakh. The institute focuses on training of youth in earth architecture.

Other than the above projects, CIL and its subsidiaries undertake numerous projects for basic infrastructure development like installation of hand pumps, construction of classrooms, mobile medical vans etc. through which the needs of local people which includes tribal population, are met.

Question 3.Brief note on Skill Development activities undertaken by Coal India Limited.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES UNDER CSR

Skill development activities are part of Schedule VII of Cos. Act 2013 under the following clauses:

- **Clause II** - Promoting special education, employment enhancing vocation skills and livelihood enhancement projects
  - **Clause III** - Promoting gender equality, empowering women, reducing inequalities faced by socially and economically backward groups

Coal India Ltd. and its subsidiaries undertake various skill development activities as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility. The primary beneficiaries of these activities are youth among the Project Affected People (PAPs) and people residing within a radius of 25 kms. of the mines. Coal India Ltd. undertakes skilling activities for youth from other parts of the country too.

Skill development activities include mainly two categories of projects:

1. Setting up skill development infrastructure

   1.1. Setting up Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs)
   1.2. Support for running of ITIs
   1.3. Support for starting new trades

2. Imparting employment oriented skill trainings

   2.1 Through skill development centers in command areas
   2.2 Through national level institutes like Central Institute of Plastic Engineering & Technology (CIPET) and National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)
   2.3 Major trades offered are – Electrician, Plumbing, Driving, Sewing, Plastic Processing etc.

Major initiatives for Skill Development

1. During the last three years, more than 10,642 persons have been trained through different skill development initiatives under CSR and a total of Rs. 41 cr. have been spent on such activities.

2. CIL has contributed for setting up of Kabiguru Industrial Training Centre (KGITC) at Bolpur, West Bengal in collaboration with DVC and BHEL. CIL has contributed towards corpus fund of the institute as well as towards infrastructure development and starting of new trades. The institute started in 2010.

3. Starting from FY 16-17, CIL has trained 2350 persons in plastic processing through Central Institute of Petrochemicals Engineering and Technology (CIPET). The placement percentage has been more than 80%. The agreement with CIPET has been renewed for training of upto 3000 more youth from the command areas of CIL′s subsidiaries during FY 20-21 and 21-22.

4. WCL conducts different skill development schemes such as – UDAN (Self-employment training), KISAN (Training to farmers for improved agriculture and irrigation practices), SHAKTI (Skill training to women), AROGYA (Skill training for employment in health sector) etc. as an ongoing activity since FY 15-16.

5. NCL has entered into an agreement with Skill Council for Mining Sector (SCMS) for candidates domiciled in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh in FY 19-20.
6. NCL is implementing small holder poultry projects for tribal families in Singrauli since FY 15-16.
7. SECL is providing infrastructure Support for 100 bedded Hostel for Skill Development training Institute for the differently abled at Tifra, Bilaspur, Chattisgarh since FY 18-19.
8. MCL′s DesiBeejGhar and AharMandal initiatives are working for income enhancement through increase in productivity through farmer trainings.
9. Horticulture training through BAIF Development Research Foundation is being conducted by MCL.
10. MCL is conducting multi skill development programme ″Handyman″ for command area youth.
11. CCL, ECL, BCCL and CMPDIL are also training youth in mining areas in different trades such as motor mechanic, beautician, computer operator, mobile repairing, tailoring/embroidery, motor driving, food processing etc. as an ongoing activity since FY 14-15.

Roadmap for skill development

CIL and its subsidiaries are striving their best to impart market relevant skill training to youth in mining areas. They plan to continue the skill development programmes going on in different trades in the current year and in upcoming years. The trainings will be carried out through skill development centers established in command areas of subsidiaries, Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and through premiere national level skill development institutes such as Central Institute of Petrochemicals Engineering & Technology (CIPET) etc. In some programmes like KaushalKendras, there is a plan to engage at least thirty percent women candidates.

Question 4. Brief note on welfare of coal workers

Ans. Coal India Limited strives to provide the best facilities for Welfare of its employees and their families. Under this, common facilities are provided to all employees and their families which includes Scheduled caste, Scheduled Tribe, Backward classes, minorities as well as other marginalized segments of the society, without any discrimination.

The following are such measures taken:

a) Housing facilities

All eligible employees are provided company quarters subject to availability and Company rules. Regular repair and maintenance including thorough repair of these housings are undertaken regularly to provide decent housing to our employees. In order to ensure prompt redressal of maintenance related issues of the housing colonies and improve efficiency of the system, CIL and its subsidiaries are in the process of adopting a comprehensive approach using technology through integrated portal/ call center.

b) Water supply

Providing clean and wholesome drinking water to the employees, their families and people living in coalfield areas is the top most priority for Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries.

The mine water is treated using gravity filters, Pressure filters, RO plants, water treatment plants etc and supplied through pipe lines. In areas which are inaccessible to piped water supply, tanker supply is ensured. For use of public, water ATMs have been set up by subsidiary companies in markets, public places and residential areas, which provide clean water to common public.

c) Educational Facilities

The Subsidiary companies of CIL ensure facility of education for the children of employees and of the population of coalfield areas by providing financial assistance and infrastructure facilities to schools operating in Mines areas like DAV, KendriyaVidyalaya, Delhi Public School etc. and other Educational Institutions run by the State Government to provide quality education to the employees' children. In addition, financial assistance and infrastructure facilities were also provided to certain privately managed schools and other educational institutions by some of the subsidiary coal companies functioning around coalfield areas.

For remotely located coalfield operations and colonies, transport facility has also been provided for school going children.

d) Coal India Scholarship Scheme:

For employees' children two types of scholarships, namely, Merit and General Scholarship, are being provided every year under prescribed terms and conditions.

a. In Merit Scholarship, Students securing 1st to 20th position in Madhyamik / H.S. or any State Board or securing 95% and above marks in ICSE, CBSE / ISC Exam (Class-X & XII) were given scholarship per month.

General Scholarship is provided to Students studying Class-V onwards upto Graduation /Post-graduation level in any discipline subject to prescribed percentage of marks.

b. Cash Award and Certificate of Appreciation:

Every year Cash Award of ₹5000 and ₹7000 are provided to the Meritorious wards of CIL employees who secure 90% or above Marks in aggregate in 10th and 12th standard Board level examination.

c. Considering the high cost of technical and medical education in the country, Coal India Limited is providing financial assistance to employee's children for meeting the cost of education and hostel charges for pursuing studies of Engineering in IITs, NITs, Govt. Engineering and Govt. Medical college.

e) Medical Facilities

Coal India Limited and its Subsidiaries are extending medical facilities to the employees and their families through various medical establishments from the dispensary level to the central and apex hospitals in different parts of the coalfields. For specialized treatment, where the expertise/ facilities is not available, they are referred for treatment outside in the empanelled hospitals.

For transporting the patients to hospitals, ambulances with latest technology and life support systems are provided at central places in entire coalfields.

In addition, special emphasis is laid on Occupational Health, HIV/AIDS Awareness programme for the employees and their families.

Medical facilities of OPD and indoor treatment in Company's hospitals/ dispensaries are also extended to the workers engaged by contractors.

During the COVID pandemic the hospitals, doctors and paramedics of CIL and subsidiary companies have complimented the efforts of State governments and provided the much needed health care support system.

f) Statutory Welfare Facilities

In accordance with the provision of the Mines Act, 1952 and Rules and Regulations framed there-under, subsidiaries of Coal India Limited are maintaining various statutory welfare facilities for the coal mines such as Canteen, Rest Shelters etc.

Non-Statutory Welfare Measures Co-operative stores and Credit Societies.

In order to supply essential commodities and consumer goods at a cheaper rate in the collieries, Central Co-operative and Primary Co-operative Stores are functioning in the Coalfield Areas of CIL. In addition, Co-operative Credit Societies are also functioning in the Coal Companies.

a) Banking Facilities and Post Offices

The management of Coal companies are providing infrastructure facilities to various Nationalized Banks for opening their Branches and Extension Counters in Coalfields for the benefit of their workers. Workers have been educated to draw their salaries from the banks. Similarly, there have been efforts to bring the post offices to the proximity of workers by encouraging opening of facilities closer to residential colonies.

b) Recreation, Sports etc

There are recreational and sports facilities near residential colonies of workers to ensure the well-being and good health of the workers and their families.

For the purpose of promotion of Sports and Culture, Coal India has an approved Sports Policy administered through Coal India Sports Promotion Association (CISPA), a body registered under West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961 and this association supports Sports and Culture by way of providing sponsorship/ financial assistance including in the coalfield areas.
Coal India Ltd. Provides facilities of Holiday homes at places of tourist attraction, at nominal cost, for the benefit of its employees & their families. These facilities are also available for retired employees.

c) Empowerment of Women

There are almost 19500 female employees working in CIL and its Subsidiary companies. In order to ensure their health, safety and welfare, the coal companies ensure compliance to all statutory requirements, enhanced maternity leave, child care leave, crèche etc. Also, Forum of Women in Public Sector (WIPS) under the aegis of Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE) is operational in all coal companies/ CIL for empowering them and provide a platform for networking. Coal India Limited is also the proud recipient of Second Prize in Maharatna category for achievement of WIPS, CIL for 2019-2020. In terms of the provisions of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013; Coal India Limited has an Internal Complaints Committee.

d) CIL Welfare Board Meeting

A bipartite forum comprising of representatives from trade unions and management constitutes the Welfare Board. This Welfare Board holds its meetings at unit/ subsidiary and headquarter level regularly. The Welfare Board takes important decisions regarding the welfare measures for employees, housing facilities upliftment, drinking water facilities and all other facilities. The Welfare Board also monitors the quality of facilities.

Question 5. Policy on redressal of public grievances .

Ans. This Ministry receives a larger numbers of Public Grievances through physically and CPGRAM. Mostly these grievances are related to coal companies regarding Service matter, Pension, Employments, welfares of employees etc. These grievances were transferred/forwarded by CSR&W to relevant Sections/PSUs for taking appropriate action.

PUBLIC GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL AT CIL

Coal India Limited uses the Integrated Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS), a web based solution to resolve Public Grievances. It is run by the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances, Government of India.
All the grievances from employees, customers & other stakeholders are resolved using CPGRAMS.
Grievances received online on CPGRAMS from the President′s Secretariat, Prime Minister′s Office, Minister′s Office, Directorate of Public Grievances, Ministry of Coal, Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances are evaluated by the Nodal Officer of CIL and sent to various Departments in CIL and subsidiary coal companies, for redressal.

The grievance applications received in the form of hard copy are scanned and uploaded to CPGRAMS and transferred to the concerned departments / subsidiary coal companies for redressal. This has made grievance redressal totally online and transparent. This system has time stamps and has also increased the accountability of the nodal officers in the grievance redressal system.

Every department at CIL headquarters has a nodal officer who sends the grievance to the dealing officer for redressal. With approval of the competent authority the grievance is redressed and a report is sent online to CPGRAMS.

A Grievance Redressal Committee (GRC) consisting of Senior level executives monitors the redressals of grievances submitted online and undertakes reviews of the progress made. The GRC ensures the quality of redressal before it is disposed. If GRC feels that the redressal is inappropriate, the grievance is sent back for a logical and quality redressal of the same.

Weekly review meetings are held at CIL Headquarters with nodal officers to ensure early and quality redressal / disposal of grievances. This has led to reduction in pending grievances and a reduction in average redressal time.

Annexure-A

8. 1- Annexure 3 of Recommendation of HLC

<table>
<tr><th>Production Plan- Revenue sharing auction regime for fully-explored blocks</th><th>Response of Ministry</th><th>Action Taken</th></tr>
<tr><td>Applicable for all fully-explored blocks.</td><td>Agreed</td><td>Implemented.
Methodology for auction of coal mines under CM(SP) Act, 2015 and MM(DR) Act, 1957 issued on 28.05.2020. Suitable provision has been incorporated in Standard Tender Document 18.06.2020</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ministry will provide a tentative year wise production schedule for each block/ mine being auctioned for the lease period. This will be a part of the bid document</td><td>Agreed</td><td>Implemented.
An year wise production schedule has been specified as Annexure to the Standard Tender Document dated 18.06.2020.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Bid Parameter for auction would be Revenue Share.</td><td>Agreed</td><td>Implemented.
Methodology for auction of coal mines under CM(SP) Act, 2015 and MM(DR) Act, 1957 issued on 28.05.2020. The same has been included in the Standard Tender Document dated 18.06.2020.</td></tr>
<tr><td>In situations where COD is achieved prior to indicated date in the bid document, the quantity of coal produced prior to COD indicated in the production schedule shall be incentivized as under:-
<table>
<tr><th>Sl. No.</th><th>Achievement of COD (years)</th><th>Incentive</th></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td>One year prior to Scheduled date of commencement of coal production</td><td>10% discount in quoted revenue share</td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td>Two or more years prior to Scheduled date of commencement of coal production</td><td>20% discount in quoted revenue share</td></tr>
</table>
</td><td>Agreed</td><td>Implemented.
Methodology for auction of coal mines under CM(SP) Act, 2015 and MM(DR) Act, 1957 issued on 28.05.2020.

The successful bidder shall be provided with incentives in the event of Early Production.

• In case of fully explored blocks, a rebate of 50% on revenue share quoted by the successful bidder would be allowed, till the scheduled date of production (SCOD) for the quantity of coal produced earlier than such scheduled date of production.
• In case of partially explored blocks, a rebate of 50% on revenue share quoted by the successful bidder will be</td></tr>
</table>

<table>
<tr>
<td>However, all statutory levies such as Royalty, DMF, NMET, etc. would be payable.</td>
<td></td>
<td>allowed, till the SCOD as per the production schedule given in approved mining plan, for the quantity of coal produced earlier than SCOD.
Statutory dues including taxes, levies, royalty, NMET, DMF, etc. shall be payable as per law. No exemption would be given to the successful bidder from obtaining any approval etc. under applicable laws required for start of production.Suitably incorporated in the Standard bid documents issued vide 18.06.2020.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantity of coal produced in excess of 10% of the indicated production (after adjusting shortfall in production during earlier years) for any year will be incentivized by a concessional regime of revenue share in the following manner (detail as per the table):
<table>
<tr><td>S. No.</td><td>Coal production in excess of quantity indicated in the production schedule (%)</td><td>Revenue Share Chargeable</td></tr>
<tr><td>(A)</td><td>(B)</td><td>(C)</td></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td>As per the production schedule and up to excess production of 10% of such schedule</td><td>No Change</td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td>Production in excess of 10% and upto 20%</td><td>Rebate of 10% on the bid revenue share on the quantity extra produced</td></tr>
<tr><td>3</td><td>Production in excess of 20%</td><td>Rebate of 10% on the bid revenue share on the quantity extra produced</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">N.B. The rebate in revenue share as prescribed in column C would be applicable only on the incremental /excess coal produced in two slabs (upto 10%, and excess of 10% over</td></tr>
</table>
</td>
<td>Not Agreeable</td>
<td>The matter was further deliberated in the meetings in PMO and in the MoC.
It was considered that incentive on excess production may not be required as the flexibility in production has been strengthened that is not to produce below than 65% in a year and 75% in a block of three years.
Hence, the proposal for incentive on excess production has been removed from proposal.</td>
</tr>
</table>

production schedule). On the production upto production schedule, the revenue share will be as per the bid/contracted percentage.		
There would be single stage auction in place of current two-stage competitive bidding.	Agreeable with modification	Two stage auction has been provided in the CM (SP) Rules, 2014 and CBA Rules, 2017. As per tender conditions, ranking and elimination of lowest ranked Technically Qualified Bidders is done at the stage of Initial Price Offers (submitted along with Technical Bid) to induce competition. ECoS to review the two stage bidding process for successive tranches of auction.
An entity either individually or through a joint venture or a consortium of entities can participate in the bidding.	Agreeable with modification	**Implemented.** Only companies and joint venture of companies are permissible to participate in the auction, as per the provisions of the Acts. Consortium of entities is not allowed.This has been included in the Standard bid documents
Performance Security (Bank Guarantee) amount shall be aggregate of: (a) 25% of one-year royalty calculated at the peak rated capacity (PRC) as per production schedule, as available, and (b) 25% of Final Price Offer (in auction) reserve price in allotment calculated at the PRC for one year	Agreeable with modification	**Implemented.** Directions issued to Nominated Authority *vide* OM dated 01.06.2020. Performance Security is 65% of aggregate of:- a) One year royalty, based on PRC; and b) One year revenue share to the Government calculated on the basis of PRC After mine opening permission, performance security is to be returned to Successful Bidder. State Government shall take a

		separate performance security for the same amount from the Successful Bidder and shall monitor the coal production. This provision has been suitably inserted in the Rules. This provision has been suitably incorporated in the Standard bid documents issued vide 18.06.2020.
Upfront Amount shall be 2.5% of the intrinsic value of the coal block, which shall be calculated by compiling (computing) its Net Present Value based on Discounted Cash Flow (DCF) method. Upfront Amount shall be payable in 4 equal instalment of 25% each, as per following schedule: 1. 1^{st} instalment – within 40 days of execution of agreement (i.e. before vesting/ allocation) 2. 2^{nd} instalment - on or prior to expiry of 15 Business days from the date of execution of Mining Lease 3. 3^{rd} instalment – on or prior to expiry of 15 Business days from grant of mine opening permission 4. 4^{th} instalment – on or prior to expiry of 15 Business Days from date of start of coal production	Agreeable with modification	**Implemented.** Methodology for auction of coal mines under CM(SP) Act, 2015 and MM(DR) Act, 1957 issued on 28.05.2020. The provisions have been suitably incorporated in the Standard Tender Document and Standard CMDPA dated 18.06.2020. Upfront amount shall be equivalent to 0.25% of the Value of Estimated Geological Reserves (VEGR) of the coal mine, payable in 4 equal installements subject to ceiling conditions: • For Geological Reserves upto 200MT upfront amount shall be lower of i)0.25% of VEGR and ii) Rs.100Cr. • For Geological Reserves over 200MT upfront amount shall be lower of i)0.25% of VEGR and ii) Rs.500Cr
Other Conditions: • Grant of ML to be for a maximum period of 50 years or till the exhaustion of mineral resources whichever is earlier.	Agreeable with modification	Implemented. Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 have appropriately amended vide the Mineral Concession (Amendment) Rules, 2021 which have been notified on 01.10.2021 allowing ML for 50 years and further extension by State Governments by another 20 years.
• Mining of associated minerals (other than CBM) to be permitted subject to same terms and conditions except the revenue share which shall be increased by additional 10% of the revenue share for the main mineral	Agreed in principle	**Implemented.** Directions issued to Nominated Authority *vide* OM dated 01.06.2020. Suitable provision has been incorporated in the Standard Tender Document dated 18.06.2020 and mining of minor minerals by the Successful Bidder has been allowed

		subject to the requirements of the respective Minor Mineral Concession Rules of the State Government.
• Total production as per the production plan will have to be met out in each block of 5 years. • Maximum shortfall of production to be permitted up to 50% in any particular year. This shortfall would have to be met either from credit carried over from previous years or by increasing production in succeeding years. • Excess production in a year/ block of 5 years will be carried over as credit to succeeding year/ block. • Any shortfall in achieving minimum production of 50% will entail a penalty which would be equal to sum total of such shortfall in revenue share and 100% of statutory levies under the MMDR Act (i.e. Royalty, DMF, NMET etc.) on such shortfall. This penalty would be levied at the end of each year. • Shortfall in production in any block of 5 years will entail a penalty which would be equal to sum total of such shortfall in revenue share and 100% of levies under the MMDR Act (i.e. royalty, DMF, NMET etc.) on such shortfall. • Default by lease holder to meet production as per production plan in any 2 blocks of 5 years will make lease liable for termination.	Agreed with modification	**Implemented with modification.** Methodology for auction of coal mines under CM(SP) Act, 2015 and MM(DR) Act, 1957 issued on 28.05.2020. • Suitable bidder shall not produce coal less than 65% of schedule production in a financial year and not less than 75% of schedule production for 3 financial year block. • If production less than 65% of schedule production in a financial year than annual revenue shall be paid on 65% of production. • Revenue to govt for a 3 financial year should not be less than 75% of scheduled production. Statutory due like taxes, levies, royalty, DMF, MNET etc shall be applicable as per law.

8.2- Annexure 4 of Recommendation of HLC

Regime for Exploration for unexplored/partially explored coal blocks	**Response of Ministry**	**Action Taken**
Applicable for all unexplored/ partially explored coal blocks allocated through auction	Agreed with modification	**Implemented.**

• Blocks would be auctioned for a composite license of exploration and mining. The bidding document would give all the data pertaining to exploration including expenditure already incurred. The expenditure so incurred would be reimbursed to the agency by the successful bidder. • Application for the composite license will be made on a dedicated e-portal maintained by the Ministry of Coal.		Auction for PL-cum-ML (composite license) has been enabled through Mineral Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020an subsequently, Mineral Laws (Amendment) Act, 2020 enacted on 13.03.2020. Area restrictions given in the Act will be reviewed and relaxed with appropriate notification. Recommendations in this Annexure for unexplored coal blocks (categorised in G-4 exploration stage) would be considered by the Empowered Committee of Secretaries. The Tender Document dated 18.06.2020 shall contain the details of Mandatory Work Program which shall be the work program for exploration as provided in Annexure to the Tender Document and shall be monitored and reviewed by the Nominated Authority or the Central Government or any agency appointed by the Nominated Authority in this regard. The auction shall be conducted on the MSTC auction platform, which is dedicated auction portal for auction of coal mines.
• Once an application is received for the composite license, the specified area will be put up for auction within 30days based on following bid parameters: Eligibility criteria (qualifying) i. Minimum experience in exploration - 1 year ii. Minimum net worth - Rs. 1 crore	Not agreeable	Technical and financial eligibility criteria have not been stipulated so as to enable wider participation. A stringent bid security is proposed for particiapation in the bid process. Upon emerging as a successful bidder, the Performance Security shall be payable by the successful bidder before the vesting of mine.

		Along with this an upfront amount shall also be payable at the time of in principal approval of the mine plan. These financial commitments are significant amounts and are indirectly a test of the financial strength of participating bidders.
• Bid parameters of auctions would be following: i. Committed expenditure per sq. km. on exploration ii. Revenue share to be quoted on revenue of Rs. 10 crore & below and Rs. 1000 crore and above. (Note: The bidder shall also provide expenditure plan with time frame. However, it shall not be bid parameter.) Weightage on different parameters would be following: (i) For partially explored block (Potential coal bearing area of 19200 sq.km. excluding area of detailed exploration) (a) Committed expenditure per sq.km. on exploration – 70% (b) Revenue share – 30% (ii) For Unexplored block (Coal bearing area up to 36000 sq.km. beyond identified potential area of 19200 sq. km.) (a) Committed expenditure per sq.km. on exploration – 80% (b) Revenue share – 20%	Not agreeable	• For the exploration stage, a Mandatory Work Program will be provided, which has to be adhered to by Successful Bidder post auction. The estimated exploration expenses based on Mandatory Work Program for a mine will also be indicated. This will be common to all the bidders for a mine and is not expected to vary largely between bidders. Thus, exploration expenditure may not be a competitive bid parameter. • Further, two bid parameters may be too complicated for the bidders to comprehend. • Further, this would also require periodic audit of exploration expenditure incurred by the Successful Bidder.
• Bid evaluation point for revenue share to be decided by an expert body to be constituted by the Ministry. Revenue share at bid evaluation point will be on the straight line drawn between minimum and maximum revenue share (as shown in the illustration).	Not agreeable	• The methodology based on the minimum and maximum revenue points may not be agreed to as these would vary significantly on the basis of the size of the mine.
• Bid can be made by an entity individually or through a joint venture or a consortium of entities for such composite license.	Agreeable with modification	**Implemented.**Only companies and joint venture of companies are permissible to participate in the auction, as per the provisions of the Acts. Consortium of entities is not

		allowed.Accordingly, it has been included in the Standard bid documents dated June 18, 2020.
• Exploration and mining for an area will be exclusive to coal.	Agreed	**Implemented.**The lease is for coal only. Enabling provisions have been provided for mining/ extraction of CBM and minor minerals obtained during coal mining.
• Extent of the area for exploration and mining will henceforth be as per the choice of the applicant.	Not agreeable	• The exploration and mining shall be done in the area auctioned.
• The composite license would be fully transferable to other parties after one year provided that minimum of the 15% of the quoted expenditure of the specified area has been incurred by the license holder. This transfer will be without any financial charge or Government approval. However, the new leaseholder would be required to meet the eligibility criteria and will be subjected to all terms and conditions including the time limits, exploration expenses and revenue share to which original concessionaire was subjected to.	Agreeable with modification	**Implemented.** Methodology for auction of coal mines under CM(SP) Act, 2015 and MM(DR) Act, 1957 issued on 28.05.2020. Directions issued to Nominated Authority *vide* OM dated 01.06.2020. Suitable provision has been incorporated in the Standard Tender Document dated 18.06.2020.
• Maximum period for retention of land for exploration will be 2 years or more depending on the extent of exploration already done, to be decided by Ministry of Coal. It will stand released automatically thereafter unless eligible for conversion into ML or period is increased by the State Government an additional period as determined by Ministry of Coal.	Not agreeable	• As per the Efficiency Parameters provided as part of the Standard CMDPA on 18.06.2020, timeline for preparation of GR is 15 months and further extension may be provided.
• Composite license holder will have to relinquish that part of area at the end of every year where exploration has been completed and is not taken for ML.	Not agreeable	No part relinquishment allowed as it may lead to sterilisation of minerals in the relinquished area which may not be economical to mine for any other entity.
• Exploration permit would be automatically converted to ML and composite license holder will be entitled to obtain ML till exhaustion of the mineral resources or 50 years, whichever is earlier.	Agreeable with modification	PL-cum-ML in one go was discussed with the State governments. States have shown their inclination towards conversion of PL to ML upon leaseholder complying with the ML conditions. The lease period shall be as per the MMDR Act. Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Amendment Rules, 2020 have

		been notified on 29.05.2020 and CBA Rules, 2017 under MMDR Act amended and notified on 18.05.2020.
• Mining of associated minerals (other than CBM) to be permitted subject to same terms and conditions except the revenue share which shall be increased by 10% of the revenue share for the main mineral.	Agreed	**Implemented.** Directions issued to Nominated Authority *vide* OM dated 01.06.2020. Suitable provision has been incorporated in the Standard Tender Document dated 18.06.2020 and mining of minor minerals by the Successful Bidder has been allowed subject to the requirements of the respective Minor Mineral Concession Rules of the State Government.
• In case in any part of the area, the evidence of coal as per the norms which are accepted by the Government has been established without incurring the committed expenditure, the grant of ML may be allowed directly without incurring remaining expenditure.	Not agreeable	• Exploration is proposed to be carried out in accordance with the Mandatory Work Program.
• The composite license holders will be permitted to surrender a block/part thereof under exploration subject to condition that- i. Surrender of all the data free of cost ii. At least 15% expenditure pertaining to area being surrendered has been incurred. iii. Any shortfall of the committed expenditure on exploration up to the date of surrender would be compensated to the Government.	Agreeable with modification	• **Implemented.** Directions issued to Nominated Authority *vide* OM dated 01.06.2020. As per the Standard Tender Document and Standard CMDPA dated 18.06.2020, upon withdrawal of the Vesting Order of a Partially Explored Mine on account of any reason whatsoever, including relinquishment, surrender, failure to complete the prospecting operations as per the Mandatory Work Program and/ or failure to prepare the Geological Report which is acceptable to the Central Government, the expenses incurred by the Successful Bidder towards prospecting/ exploration operations, preparation of Geological Report shall not be reimbursed.

• Performance Security: (a) Before approval of mining plan, performance security shall be equal to 25% of the exploration expenses submitted by the Successful Bidder in its bid. (b) After approval of mining plan, performance security shall be replace by another performance security of the amount, which shall be same as specified for explored blocks.	Agreeable with modification	**Implemented.** Directions issued to Nominated Authority *vide* OM dated 01.06.2020. Performance Security for Partially Explored coal blocks shall be as: i. The exploration expenses shall be on the basis of estimated exploration expensesbased on Mandatory Work Program which will be provided in the tender document. a) Performance Security shall be equal to 25% of the estimated exploration expense till in principle approval of mining plan by MoC. b) The amount of Performance Security shall be revised after in-principle approval of the mining plan by MoC, which shall be estimated in the same manner as specified for fully explored mines. ii. The Performance Security shall be submitted by the Successful Bidder in the form of a bank guarantee, prior to issuance of Vesting Order within such time as may be stipulated by the Nominated Authority.
• Upfront amount and its instalments shall be same as specified for explored blocks. However, schedule of payment of instalments shall be as follows: 1. 1^{st} instalment – within 40 days of approval of mining plan. 2. 2^{nd} to 4^{th} instalments – same as specified for explored blocks.	Agreed	**Implemented.** The payment milestones in four instalments for the Upfront Amount have been included in the Standard bid documents dated June 18, 2020.

9.0 Coking Coal for Steel Sector

Sl. No.	Recommendation of HLC	Response of Ministry	Action Taken

i	Coking coal linkages should be auctioned on a long term, at least for 30 years with adequate quantity (3 MT/annum), to enable setting up of new private washeries.	Agreed	**Implemented.** Methodology for auction of coal mines under CM(SP) Act, 2015 and MM(DR) Act, 1957 issued on 28.05.2020has approved a revised tenure of upto 30 years for coking coal linkage in the Non-Regulated Sector linkage auction. Accordingly, to notify the above, amendment to the policy guidelines for auction of coal linkages of Non-Regulated Sector were issued on 01.06.2020.
ii	Privatising old washeries at suitable terms is recommended.	Under examination	CIL has to take necessary action on this issue.

10.0 Non-operational mines of CIL

Sl. No.	Recommendation of HLC	Response of Ministry	Action Taken
	CIL may consider outsourcing non-operational and or loss making mines through bidding process on production/revenue sharing basis. Ownership of these mines will remain with CIL.	Agreed	CIL has prepared an action plan to operationalize the non-operational coal mines through MDO route. MoC is in process of finalization of Revenue Sharing Model through Private Sector participation in development of Discontinued/Closed/Abandoned Mines.

11.0 Approval Process/ Statutory Compliances

Sl. No.	Recommendation of HLC	Response of Ministry	Action Taken
	(i) Application for Environment Clearance, Forest Clearance, Wildlife and Coastal Regulation Zone to be filed in PARIVESH portal maintained by MoEF&CC.	Agreed	It is proposed to Set up a "Centralised Processing Centre Green (CPC-Green)" for a transparent Technology-driven, non-intrusive monitoring system which would also Provide a "single window" solution for administration of environmental regulations (Environment Clearances, Forest

			Clearances, Wildlife Clearances, Coastel Zone Regulation, Consents (establishment and operation), authorizations under waste management rules and other permissions) administered in the MoEFCC. This facility is up gradation of exixting Parivesh Portal to bring the synergy between EC, FC, WL, CTE/CTO and other clearance applications/their processing etc. : A single window clearance portal has already been implemented as PARIVESH which has been operating since August 2018. Scope of the PARIVESH is being expanded further to bring further transparency, end- to end online processing, online compliance reporting, decision support system for scientific evaluation of the proposals, etc. The features like e-KYC Common Application Form, GIS based Know Your Approval & Decision Support System have already been developed and integerated on 05th September, 202. Other features like end-to-end online processing of EC, FC, WL and CRZ are expected to be completed by end of this year.
	(ii) Procedure for grant of clearance inter-alia will conform to timelines specified in the table.	Partially agreed	In case of coal mining, mainly two clearances are required i.e. EC and FC. The application received from EC, FC, WL and CRZ will be scrutinized within the stipulated time frame of 30 days of application. However, EC and FC are governed by two different actsand majority of the activities related with forest clearances, lie with the state governments which take a substantial time. MoEFCC is in process to simplify the process by amending the Indian Forest Rules, which will ultimately lead to reduction in time in awarding forest clearance.

			In order to Streamline the EC processes, Ministry has taken several systematic reforms which inter-alia include fortnightly meetings of the expert Appraisel Committee (EAC) meetings (Ministry′s OM dated 29.10.2021), complete online processing of application through PARIVESH, instruction for raising all queries in one go, etc. Due to above measures, the average time in grant of EC across all sectors has reduced considerably in last couple of years. In coal mining sector, the average time taken for grant of EC reduced from 105 days to 60 days. Similarly, to streamline the FC processes, the ministry has notified the Forest (Conservation) Rule, 2022 on 28.06.2022. Important salient features of new rules are as under: i) Introduction of Project Screening Committee at State Level for participatory and Parallel examination of the proposal. ii) Extending Delegation to Regional Offices: Regional Offices can now grant approval to mining proposals involving area upto 5ha, hydel projects involving area upto 40 ha. iii) Accredited Compensatory Afforestation: A system of proactive afforestation to be used for obtaining prior approval under section 2(ii) of the Act. iv) Reduction in time limit for submission of compliance of Stage-1 approval from existing 5 years to 2 years. v) Ensuring parallel compliance of other statutory approvals.

			vi) Streamlining the process of approval for Working Plans under the Act: In addition to above, the Ministry has taken several other initiatives by issuing guidelines and clarifications. Due to such measures, the average time taken to grant FC across all sectors has reduced considerably in last couple of years. The average time taken for grant of FC reduced from 350 days to 180 days.
	(a) Single interface for application through PARIVESH portal – (o) Days	Not Agreed	The MoEFCC is developing a portal for Single online interface for making the application of EC, FC wildlife Clearance and Coastal Region zone (CRZ) Clearance. PARIVESH-I already been implemented and operating smoothly as single window clearance. Further, the scope of the PARIVESH is proposed to expand to bring further transparency, end-to end online processing, online compliance reporting, and decision support system for scientific evaluation of the proposals, etc. The features like e-KYC, Common _ Application Form, GIS based Know Your Approval & Decision Support System have already been developed and integrated on 5th September, 2022, Other features like end-to-end online processing of EC, FC, WL and CRZ are expected to be completed by this year end.
	(b) The application received fro EC FC WL and CRZ may be scrutinize within stipulated timeframe of 20 days	Partially Agreed	The simplification procedures in is pipelines to reduce the number of activities for getting many clearances early. MoEFCC has agreed to scrutinize the application for EC /FC within the 30 days time schedule instead of the proposed 20 days.

			Time lines have been provided in the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2022 for scrutiny and processing of proposals by the various authorities in the States/UTs which interalia includes conduction of meeting of the Project Screening Committee and Regional Empowered Committee twice a month. In order to streamline the EC process, Ministry has taken several systemic reforms which inter-alia include fortnightly meetings of the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) meetings (Ministry's OM dated 29.10.2021). This has resulted in reduction of time for scrutiny and placing before EAC for consideration.
	(c) Joint site inspections (if necessary) may be carried out within 30 days	Not always applicable	The joint site inspection is not applicable in all the cases. The simplification procedures in is pipelines to reduce the number of activities for getting many clearances early. MoEF&CC has agreed to scrutinize the application for EC /FC within the 30 days time schedule instead of the proposed 20 days. As per the provisions Forest (Conservation) Rules, The 2002 no separate time lines have been provided for carrying out Iinspection. Inspection of the area by various authorities is to be completed within the time line prescribed for scrutiny and processing of the proposals.
	(d) ToR for EC be granted within 10 Days	Under Examination	MoEFCC has undertaken comprehensive exercise to review the conditions of Environment clearance and overhaul the EC process with a view to reduce the time taken in the process. MoEF&CC vide OM dated 06.05.2022 issued Mechanism for handling ToR applications for issuing Standard Terms of

			/Reference(ToRs) or referring to EAC/ SEAC through PARIVESH portal. In this regard, the Ministry directed the Member Secretaries of the concerned EAC/SEAC shall scrutinize the applications as per the provisions mentioned within seven days from the date of application for issuing online system generatedStandard ToR and shall refer the application for′ grant of ToR to EAC/SEAC only as on exception depending upon the environmental sensitivity involved or as per guidelines mandate.
	(e) Preparation of unified EIA/EMP report by the applicant –(o) Days		
	(f) Estimation of dues for compensatory Afforestation, Net Present value, catchment area treatment and wildlife conservation plan, if applicable should run concurrently to public consultations process along with the Catchment Area treatment and wildlife conservation plan if applicable (o) days	-	Action taken: With regards to the payment of compensatory levies, issue regarding payment of NPV in respect of proposals involving survey/| prospecting in forest area has already been resolved. Ministry has issued guidelines dated 17.11.2020 providing for payment of NPV only in respect of actual impact area of 0.1 ha per bore hole. It is also mentioned that currently, the Ministry has provided arrangement for online system of payments Starting from raising demand note, challan generation to online payment by the User Agency. System is user friendly and more convenient. As per the current mechanism provided in the FC process, amount for CA, NPV, site specific plans, etc. has to be estimated separately by the State Forest Department, are deposited by the User Agency through onle payment module involvement of the user agency is limited only for making only for making online payments which seems| to be as good as the proposed mechanism of Bank guarantee. Moreover, addition of new features (bank guarantee) may not add any additional advantage as the

			amount secured by way of bank guarantee again has to pass through the same process of online segregation of funds to be utilized for raising CA, NPV and implementation of the State Forest Department. However, the matter will be deliberate further with the NA (CAMPA) to assess the additional advantage, if any, Involved in the proposed mechanism of bank guarantee. Further, Forest Conservation Division has also proposed to amend the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003 and proposal is currently under deliberation in the Ministry. Proposed amendments envisage more streamlining of the process by introducing simplified process for the scrutiny of the proposals and identification of land for compensatory afforestation at State levels. Proposed Draft Amendment Rules will be finalized shortly for subsequently soliciting the approval of the competent authority. Status as on September 2022: In this regard it is submitted that every proposal involving forest land have ecological values and to compensate the ecological values sitespecific Compensatory Afforestation Scheme is prepared by the respective State/UTs which varies not only| from State to State but also project to project. CA scheme and financial provisions involved therein are prepared after finalization of land for raising CA. Similarly, cost involved in other plans like CAT plan, Wildlife Management Plan etc are also site-specific and management interventions are prescribed based on the requirements of site. It may therefore not prudent to generalize the cost of CA scheme and other plans.

			Rates of NPV have been fixed by the Hon′ble Supreme Court and the same have been revised by the Ministry on 06.01.2022.
	(g) Wherever possible paralled hearing may be conducted for both the purposes – PH and Gram Sabha (30 days)	Not agreed by MoEFCC	In respect of Public consultation and Gram Sabha, the matter related with forest dwellers, specially the tribal, this provision of publisc consultation was made by Ministry of Tribal Affairs which is out of purview of MoEFCC. Comments from FC division as per the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2022, compliance of FRA 2006, including Gram Sabha is to be ensured by the State before issuing final diversion order.
	(h) The committees for the application filed for clearances may be recommend grant or denial of clearances sought- (15) days	Agreeable	MoEFCC informed that Appraisal committee(s) constituted under the FC and EP acts and ministry take prompt decision on grant or denial of clearance when proposal complete in all respect is received. Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2022 envisages the entire process of submission, processing, appraisal and approval under the FC Act through online mode only. Recommendations and decisions made by the various appriassal Committees will be available online to all concerned immediately after the finalization of minutes.
	(i) The application processed for various clearances under the existing laws may be cleared within the stipulated period and the approval /rejection status and reasons for rejection may be updated on the portal (PARIVESH) on day to day basis ..(15 days)		MoEFCC informed that Appraisal committee(s) constituted under the FC and EP acts and Ministry take prompt decision on grant or denial of clearance when proposal complete in all respect is received As per the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2002 time lines have been provided for processing the′ proposals by various′ authorities. enabling provisions to

			ensure monitoring and tracking of the proposal in realtime have been provided in the portal. In order to streamline the EC process, Ministry has taken several systemic reforms which inter-alia include fortnightly meetings of the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) meetings (Ministry's OM dated 29.10.2021), complete online processing of application through PARIVESH, _ instruction for raising all queries in one go, etc. Due to above measures, the average time in grant of EC across all sectors has reduced considerably in last couple of years. In coal mining sector, the average time taken for grant of EC reduced from 105 days to around 60 days. All information regarding the status of proposal is readily available on PARIVESH. Moreover, Dashboard has been provided to MoC also Wherein the status of proposals of coal mines: can be viewed and monitored on real-time basis.
	i. Subject to above procedure, statutory clearances would be granted in 4 months from the date of application.	Not agreed by MoEFCC	Given the various inescapable steps involved in the FC process vizenty /compilation of information, ground verification, inspection etc the existing time line provided in the FC rules , 2003 seems imappropriate. However, Ministry has taken various steps to streamline the process and reduce the average processing time of the proposals . In the recent past Ministry has taken several initiatives which includes notification of Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2022 and several other initiatives in the form of guidelines and and clarifications. Due to such initiatives the average time taken to grant FC across all sectors has reduced considerably in last couple of years. The average time taken for grant of FC reduced from 350 days to 180 days.

			As per EIA Notification, 2006, the Environmental Clearance (EC) shall be granted within one hundred and five days of the receipt of the final Environment Impact Assessment Report, and where Environment Impact Assessment is not required, within one! hundred and five days of the receipt of the complete application with requisite documents. However, in coal mining sector the average time taken for grant of EC reduced from 105 days to 60 days. In order to streamline the EC process, the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) meetings are conducted at least twice a month not a gap of more than fifteen (15) days between two EAC meetings to cut down the period of Environmental Clearances (EC) approval. (Ministry's OM dated 29.10.2021) Ministry has issued OM dated 11th April, 2022 for Expansion in production capacity in phased manner upto 50% expansion projects wherein relaxation was given to prepare EIAEMP without process of public consultation upto 40% expansion and with public consultation for capacity expansion from 40% to 50%. Ministry has issued Notification dated 20th April, 2022 for Delegated and decentralized the EC process to SEIAA under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006: Coal Mining Mining <500 Ha (From 150 ha) Stand Alone Coal Washeries < 2.5 MTPA (from 1.0 MTPA). Ministry has issued OM dated 30" May, 2022 regarding Relaxation/Clarification on preparation _ of revised EIA-EMP report with OM dated 11.04.2022- PP need not to prepare revised EIA-EMP report in each expansion phases

			if initial EIA-EMP report was prepared for higher capacity or maximum 50%. Ministry has issued OM dated 7° May, 2022 regarding Special dispensation given for additional 10% increase in capacity in those coal mines, which have already obtained 40% expansion (based on earlier reforms) within the existing premises/ mine lease area, without additional land acquisition by way of allowing capacity addition and submission of EIA/EMP report within 6 months.
	ii. Net Present Value (NPV) may not be levied at the exploration stage.	Not agreed by MoEFCC	MoEFCC informed that the prospecting is a non-forestry activity. NPV for no forest activity is levied as per FC Act and provisions of the Hon′ble Supreme Court order dated 26.10.2018. The Prospecting is a non-forestry activity. Accordingly, as per the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Hon′ble Supreme Court order dated 28.10.2002, the provisions of NPV are applicable for allowing a non-forestry activity in the forest area. However, Ministry has issued guidelines on 17.11.2020 clarifying that for exploration in forest area NPV will be charged for the actual impact area of 0.1 ha per bore hole instead of charging the same for whole forest area in which prospecting is proposed.
	iii. There should not be any requirement of FC for undertaking exploration.	Not agreed by MoEFCC	MoEFCC informed that the prospecting is a non-forestry activity and required prior approval under FC Act. However the processs of approval for prospecting in forest has been simplified and streamlined. The Prospecting is a non-forestry activity. Accordingly, as per the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Hon′ble Supreme Court order dated 28.10.2002, the provisions of NPV are applicable for allowing a non-forestry

			activity in the forest area. However, Ministry has issued guidelines on 17.11.2020 clarifying that for exploration in forest area NPV will be charged for the actual impact area of 0.1 ha per bore hole instead of charging the same for whole forest area in which prospecting is proposed.
	iv. No Go Areas should be pre-defined by the MOEFCC	Under Examination	Go and No Go areas for coal mining were identified in 2009/2010. However, GoM constituted in Feb 2011 decided that concept of Go-No-Go for coal mining should be done away with. To facilitate identification of inviolate forest areas a committee has been constituted for identification of inviolated areas. After Hon'ble supreme court Judgement dated 06.07.2011(Lafarge Judgement) forest survey of india has developed a GIS based Decision Support System (DSS) which is presently used to take decision on the proposals falling in the pristine forest areas.
	v. The validity of EC may be made co-terminus to the mining lease period and be transferable form one leaseholder to another	Under Examination	MoEFCC has undertaken comprehensive exercise to overhaul of the EC process, including extending the EC validity to make it co-terminus with the lease period and its transfer from one lessee to another with a view to reduce time taken in the process. Ministry vide its guidelines dated 07.07.2021 has allowed transfer of approval granted under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 from Erswhile agency to new agency for the period co-termius with the validity of lease granted under MMDR Act, 1957. The Ministry vide Notification S.O 1807 (E) dated 12.04.2022 stated that the prior Clearance Environmental granted formining projects shall be valid for the project life as laid down in the mining plan approved and renewed by

			competent authority, from time to time, subject to a maximum of thirty years, whichever is earlier: Provided that the period of validity of Environmental Clearance with respect to projects or activities included in this subparagraph may be extended by another twenty years, beyond thirty years, subject to the condition that the adequacy of the existing environmental safeguards laid down in the existing Environmental Clearance shall be examined by concerned Expert Appraisal Committee every five years beyond _ thirty years, on receipt of such application in the laid down proforma from the Project Proponent within the maximum validity period of EnvironmentalClearance of _ thirty years, and subsequently on receipt of such application in the laid down proforma from the Project Proponent within the validity period of the extended Environment Clearance, every five years for incorporating such additional environment safeguards′ in the Environmental Management Plan , asmay be deemed necessary, till the validity of the mining lease or end of life of mine or fifty years, whichever is earlier.″; Notification vide S.O 811(E) dated 23rd March 2015) states ″Where an allocation) of coal block is cancelled in| any legal proceeding, or by the Government in accordance with law, the environmental clearance granted in respect of such| coal block may be transferred, subject to the| same validity period as was initially granted, to any legal person to whom such block! is subsequently allocated, and in such case, obtaining of ″no objection″ from either| the holder of environment clearance or from the regulatory authority concerned shall not be necessary and no reference

			shall be made to the Expert Appraisal Committee or the State Level Expert Appraisal Committee concerned″.

12.0 Long haulage of coal from mines allotted to State Governments

Sl. No.	Recommendation of HLC	Response of Ministry	Action Taken
i	States may be allowed to provide coal linkages from their coal mines to nearby IPPs.	Not Agreed	Parliament has approved an amendment to the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and Rules are being finalised by Ministry of Coal. The amendment would provide for allowing private coal block allocattees to sell 50 % of the coal produced in the market after meeting its end use requirements and the provision for PSUs/PSUs is flexible empowering the government to allow higher percentage of coal produced for sale in the market. Once these Rules are finalised, present need as such for coal swapping is going to be redundant.
ii	The selection of IPP should be through competitive bidding and with thorough cost benefit analysis.		
iii	It should also be ensured that the amount of coal provided to the IPP corresponds to the power purchased by the State from the IPP.		

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