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CISF seizes over 428 tonnes of illegal coal in Jharkhand, Bengal

In intensified crackdown, authorities take control of vehicles, equipment being used for illegal mining; 4 FIRs registered, legal action to be initiated

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NEW DELHI

Intensifying its operations against illegal coal mining, the Central Industrial Security Force has in the past four days recovered over 428 metric tonne of coal being transported illegally in Jharkhand and West Bengal, a CISF official said on Thursday.

In line with the government's "zero coal leakage" initiative, the CISF has stepped up enforcement against illegal coal mining, theft, unauthorised storage and transportation under the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act), the official added.

Boosting transparency

The CISF has launched intelligence-driven operations in coordination with Coal India subsidiaries, local police and district ad-



District authorities, the police and Coal India subsidiaries will coordinate to safeguard mineral resources. REUTERS

ministration to safeguard national mineral resources and strengthen transparency in the coal sector.

"Between July 4 and 8, 2026, CISF conducted coordinated operations across the coalfields of Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL), Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) and Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) in Jharkhand and West Bengal. The operations resulted in the recovery of 428.34 metric tonne of illegally mined, stored

or transported coal, registration of four First Information Reports (FIR), seizure of one Hyva truck and more than 13 motorcycles and other equipment used in illegal mining and transportation, besides apprehension of offenders and initiation of legal proceedings under the MMDR Act," the official added.

The enforcement drive covered several vulnerable mining belts and coal transportation corridors in both States.