

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1866
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.3.2025

Safety audit of mines

1866. Shri Rajeev Shukla:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of death of workers in the coal mining tragedy in the State of Assam's Dima Hasao district;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the total number of deaths due to accidents in mines in the country during the last five years,
- (d) whether Government has undertaken safety audits of the mines during the last one year; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) & (b): Yes. The Government of Assam has informed that a tragic rat-hole mine accident took place on 06/01/2025 at the 19 No. block of Assam Quarry, Kalamati under Umrangso Police Station of Dima Hasao district, when some unspecified numbers of labourers were extracting coal from an illegal coal mine and suddenly water gushed into the mine and flooded it. Some of the labourers had managed to escape using the onsite crane, however, 9 (nine) labourers were trapped inside the flooded mine. The mortal remains of all labourers have been recovered after 44 days of continuous joint rescue operations of Central and State agencies and their bodies have been handed over to respective families.

(c): As informed by Director General of Mines Safety (DGMS), total number of deaths due to accidents in coal and lignite mines in the country during last five years, are as under:

Year	Fatalities
2020	53
2021	51
2022	28
2023	41
2024	53 (provisional)

(d) & (e): All coal companies are mandated to submit annual safety audit report to National Coal Mines Safety Report Portal of Ministry of Coal. Till 10th March, 2025, 283 audit reports have been uploaded by coal companies on the National Coal Mines Safety Report Portal.
