

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COAL**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1633  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.08.2025**

**Fatal accident at Kottadih Colliery, Paschim Bardhaman**

**1633 Shri Ritabrata Banerjee:**

Will the Minister of *Coal* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a fatal accident occurred in Kottadih colliery (Paschim Bardhaman) in the recent past due to inadequate safety enforcement in Eastern Coalfields;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) remedial measures adopted to stop the menace of such incidents?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF COAL & MINES  
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)**

(a) & (b): The fatal accident in Kottadih colliery (Paschim Bardhaman) occurred on 03.01.2025 and the same was inquired into by Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS). The enquiry report reveals that the accident did not occur due to non-compliance of safety enforcement in the mine.

(c): DGMS issued a safety alert to sensitize stakeholders and reinforce preventive measures across mining operations immediately after the fatal accident at Kottadih Colliery on 03.01.2025.

The Central Government has enacted the Mines Act, 1952 to ensure occupational safety & health of mine workers, including coal mines. The Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) has been entrusted with the task of inspection of mines to ensure the compliance of the provisions of the Mines Act, 1952, and rules and regulations framed thereunder for enhancing the safety of mine workers. Accordingly, DGMS has taken various steps to reduce the fatalities in mines and enforce the safety of workers engaged therein, which inter alia include conducting regular enquires into the accidents and dangerous occurrences to ascertain cause and circumstances, regular inspection of mines, development of standard protocols, holding national conferences on safety in mines, observance of safety weeks, campaigns, awareness etc.

ECL has undertaken the following Proactive Remedial Measures to prevent recurrence of such incidents: -

1. **Personal Counseling:** Regular personal counseling sessions are conducted at every mine for employees aged 45 years and above, including both departmental and contractual staff, aimed at assessing personal behavior and detecting any suicidal tendencies. Medical officers at both the Unit and Area levels actively participate in these counseling efforts.
2. **Safety Counseling:** A mandatory annual safety counseling programme is implemented in all mines to evaluate and reinforce the safety mindset of every employee, promoting adherence to safety norms and fostering a culture of vigilance.
3. **Family Counseling:** Recognizing that safety begins at home, family counseling sessions are conducted for all employees to assess their mental well-being, adherence to prescribed medications, and socioeconomic conditions, including debt status, thereby ensuring holistic support for the workforce.

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