

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2121  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.01.2018**

**MINE ACCIDENTS**

**†2121. SHRI LAKHAN LAL SAHU:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to ensure the safety of mine workers in view of recent mine accidents;**
- (b) whether the Government has prepared any comprehensive policy to provide compensation to workers died in the said accidents;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) the amount allocated to ensure the safety of mines during the last three years and the current year?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

**(a): Under the Constitution of India, safety, welfare and health of workers employed in mines are the concern of the Central Government (Entry 55-Union List-Article 246). The objective is regulated by the Mines Act, 1952 and the Rules and Regulations framed thereunder. These are administered by the Directorate-General of Mines Safety (DGMS), under the Union Ministry of Labour & Employment.**

**The onus of providing for and ensuring safety in mines rests with the mine managements, as laid down under section 18 of the Mines Act, 1952 as "The owner and agent of every mine shall each be responsible for making financial and other provisions and for taking other such steps as may be necessary for compliance with the provisions of this Act and regulations, rules, bye-laws and orders made thereunder."**

**Following steps have been taken to ensure the safety of mine workers in view of recent mine accidents:**

**Contd..2/-**

- (i) Regular sample inspections are done by the officers of DGMS and based on the observations during the inspections; following actions are taken- Pointing out contraventions, withdrawal of permission, issue of improvement notice, prohibition of employment and prosecution in the court of law.
- (ii) Accidents are inquired into and based on the findings of accident enquiry by Officers of DGMS, following actions are taken - warning to delinquent, suspension of certificate, modification in the method of working, action by management like stoppage of increment, dismissal from service, recorded warning, withholding promotion and prosecution in the court of law.
- (iii) Following promotional measures are also taken - Conference on safety in mines, National Safety Awards (Mines), Observance of Safety Week, and Safety Campaign.
- (iv) Standard Setting:
  - (a) amendment of safety laws,
  - (b) issue of guidelines for safer operations in identified thrust areas through circulars and
  - (c) issue of technical instructions to DGMS officers for their guidance.

(b) & (c): The compensation is covered under the Employees' Compensation Act, 1923. Compensation is given by the respective mining companies or owners.

(d): The Ministry has a scheme namely "Mine Accident Analysis and Modernization of Information Database (MAMID)" wherein DGMS takes various steps to ensure safety of Mines such as analysis of accidents and dangerous occurrence using risk assessment and management techniques to mitigate risk of disaster and accidents in the Mines, preparation Risk Management Plan for Mines having highest risk of accidents/disasters, dissemination of mine information system and development and establishment Risk Observatory.

The amount allocated during last three years and the current year for the said scheme is as below:

| Year         | Amount (Rs. in Crore) |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| 2014-15      | 5.00                  |
| 2015-16      | 5.00                  |
| 2016-17      | 6.39                  |
| Current Year | 10.00                 |

\*\*\*\*\*