

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINES  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1091**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2018

**CONTRACTUAL WORKERS**

1091. SHRI KESINENI NANI:

Will the Minister of Mines be pleased to State:

- (a) whether the number of contractual workers is higher than the permanent workers in mining sector and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) the differences between the safety, retirement benefits and compensation regulations between permanent and contractual labourers; and
- (c) the current status of the study being conducted to gauge the prevalence of silicosis throughout the country especially in Andhra Pradesh?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINES (SHRI HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY)

(a) No, Madam. As informed by the Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS), Ministry of Labour & Employment, the number of contractual workers is not higher than the permanent workers in mining sector.

(b) The safety health and welfare of workers employed in mines is regulated by the Mines Act, 1952 and the Rules and Regulations framed there under. The Mines Act, 1952 is administered by DGMS, a Regulatory Agency under the Ministry of Labour & Employment. As informed by DGMS the Mines Act, 1952 does not differentiate between the permanent and contractual labourers.

The workmen's compensation Act, 1923, provides for the payment by certain classes of employers to their workmen of compensation for injury by accident. In this Act the "workman" means any person (other than a person whose employment is of a casual nature and who is employed otherwise than for the purposes of the employer's trade or business)

(c) As informed by the DGMS, a project costing Rs. 4.68 crore on "Multicentric study of dust related diseases in stone mines and development of sustainable preventive programme" has been undertaken jointly by Union Ministry of Labour and Employment and Ministry of Mines in collaboration with National Institute of Miners' Health, Nagpur (an autonomous body under Ministry of Mines), to address the Silicosis related health issues of stone mines and quarries workers of unorganized sector situated in different parts of the country, which would include the dust profiling, disease profiling, profiling of the nature of mining operations prevalently contributing to occurrence of silicosis, etc. The findings of the project would help in identifying the genesis of the occurrence of silicosis and appropriate mitigation measures for future control and prevention.

National Institute of Miners' Health (NIMH), Nagpur has carried out the occupational health and safety survey of mine workers up to October, 2017 in six(6) states namely Telangana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal in which 105 cases of Silicosis have been detected out of 2539 persons examined.

An occupational health and safety survey of silicosis affected workers under section 9A of the Mines Act, 1952 has been undertaken by DGMS.

All over India, a total number of 9557 persons were medically examined, out of which 157 cases of silicosis were detected by them. The details of the silicosis cases detected in the state of Andhra Pradesh is as follows:

S.No	State	District	No. of persons medically examined	Silicosis Cases detected
1	Andhra Pradesh	Kurnool	430	0
		Anantapur	210	X-Rays to be evaluated
		Sub-Total	640	0

*Note: As on 31.01.2018 (source: DGMS, Ministry of Labour & Employment)*

On the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court's Order No.1028/2006/SC/PILW dated 30.08.2016, Directorate General Factory Advice Service & Labour Institutes (DGFASLI), under the Ministry of Labour & Employment, has carried out an occupational health and safety survey of Silicosis affected workers under Section 91A of the Factories Act, 1948. As per the current Status the Survey has been completed in the following States:

Maharashtra, Gujarat, Goa, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Tripura, UT of Daman & Diu, UT of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala, UT of Puducherry, UT of Lakshadweep, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Delhi, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, UT of Chandigarh, Assam, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Bihar, Chhattisgarh and Telangana.

Survey is under progress in UT of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Uttar Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Andhra Pradesh. Survey is still pending in Jammu and Kashmir and West Bengal. *(source: DGFASLI, Ministry of Labour & Employment)*

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