GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COAL

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3486 TO BE ANSWERED ON 8.8.2018

Coal Mine Workers

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Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the number of coal mine workers working in different State owned coal mines across the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the details of the number of facilities including safety facilities being provided to these workers across the country;
- (c) whether the Government has received any complaints at present in some of the States in connection with violation
- of safety guidelines in their mines and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise and the reasons therefor;
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to make these coal mines/all coal mines as zero accidental; and
- (e) whether the Government has issued guidelines to States to provide training to workers for safety during the work time and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COAL, FINANCE AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

- (a): The number of coal mine workers working in the subsidiaries of CIL and SCCL located in different States as on 01.07.18 are given at **Annexure I.**
- **(b):** The following safety facilities are provided to employees in Coal India Ltd (CIL) and its subsidiaries:
 - Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)s to all employees as per requirement of their jobs.
 - Round-the-clock Supervision by statutory personnel for ensuring safety of the employees working in the mines.

- System / devices / apparatuses for early detection of different gases present in mine ambience and/or produced in the UG mine environment due to various reasons including mine fire / spontaneous heating.
- Adequate support for overlying roof strata.
- Electrical safety features such as overload (OL) protection, earth leakage (EL) protection, restricted earth neutral system, Lighting Arrester etc.
- Adequate initial, refresher and job-specific training to all employees.
- Adequate fire-fighting arrangement.
- Appropriate fencing against dangerous places at mine.
- Facility of Man Riding System for those UG mines having arduous and long travel.
- Well-equipped Organization for Mine Rescue Services for dealing with Emergency situations.
- (c) As informed by Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS), a subordinate office under Ministry of Labour & Employment, complaints are received from time to time in connection with violation of safety guidelines in the mines. These are dealt by DGMS and the action is taken based on the findings during the inquiry related to the matter. The details of the complaints received, State/UT wise are attached in **Annexure-II**.
- (d): The matters relating to safety, health and welfare of persons employed in the mines are dealt with under the Mines Act, 1952, Rules and Regulations made there under. DGMS administers the Mines Act, 1952 for ensuring safety in the mines in the country. The owner, agent, manager and other statutory persons appointed at the mines are required to comply with the provisions of the statute. Chief Inspector of Mines and Inspectors of Mines make inspections and enquire whenever it is required to ascertain whether the provisions of the Mines Act 1952 and of the regulations, rules and bye-laws and of any order made there under are observed in the case of any mine.

In order to prevent re-occurrence of accidents in future, Directorate General of Mines Safety issues circular for the mining industry for preventive measures to be taken. To ensure that the mine workers are provided with adequate safety measures while working in the mines, Officers of DGMS undertake inspections of mines and take following measures:

- Pointing out contraventions
- Withdrawal of permission
- Issue of improvement notices
- Prohibition of employment
- Informal stoppages
- Prosecution in the court of law

To prevent accidents in the mines the following steps are also taken/being taken by the Government:

- (i) To promote and propagate safety awareness in mines, National Safety Awards (Mines), National Conference on Safety in Mines are organized by DGMS. The recommendations of National Conference on Safety in Mines go a long way in enhancing safety of mine workers.
- (ii) Workers participation and sensitization in matters of safety are ensured through training in safety and by initiatives like celebration of safety week and safety campaigns, etc.

- (iii) Safety training programmes are organized among Managers and Supervisors for improving safety standards in mines.
- (iv) Introduction of Risk Assessment Techniques and preparation of safety management plan aimed at elimination of risks and to ensure safety of workmen.
- (v) Introduction of standard operating procedures to avoid unsafe practices in mines.
- (vi) Time to time, DGMS Circulars are issued as guidelines for safe operations in identified thrust areas.
- (e): Training the persons employed in the mines is provided as per the provisions of The Mines Vocational Training Rules, 1966 (a subordinate legislation of The Mines Act, 1952). The salient points of The Mines Vocational Training Rules, 1966 are:
 - (i) Provision for training centre as per the provisions of the Rule 18 of The Mines Vocational Training Rules, 1966.
 - (ii) Provisions for Training officer as per Rule 20 of The Mines Vocational Training Rules, 1966.
 - (iii) Provision of trainer as per Rule 22 of The Mines Vocational Training Rules, 1966.
 - (iv) Provision of initial and refresher training as per Rule 6 and 8 of The Mines Vocational Training Rules, 1966

State	Subsidiary	No.of workers (Non-Exe.)
Jharkhand	ECL	8164
	BCCL	44667
	CCL	38020
	CMPDIL	911
	NEC	3
	TOTAL	91765
Wast Daniel	ECL	50729
	BCCL	1268
	CMPDIL	248
	SECL	35
West Bengal	DCC	292
	CIL(HQ)	431
	NEC	5
	TOTAL	53008
	MCL	20491
Odisha	CMPDIL	293
	TOTAL	20784
	WCL	11982
Madhya Pradesh	NCL	7626
	CMPDIL	187
	SECL	16742
	TOTAL	36537
Uttar Pradesh	NCL	5592
	TOTAL	5592
Chattishgarh	CMPDIL	492
	SECL	37626
	TOTAL	38118
	WCL	30754
Maharastra	CMPDIL	293
	TOTAL	31047
Assam	NEC	1343
	TOTAL	1343
Meghalaya	NEC	13
	TOTAL	13
TOTAL MANPOWER(278207	
Telangana	SCCL	52649

Annexure II

Details of the complaints received in connection with violation of safety guidelines in state owned coal mines:

S.No	State	No. of Complaints	Reasons of Complaints
1	Chhattisgarh	NIL	NIL
2	Gujarat	NIL	NIL
3	Jharkhand	NIL	NIL
4	Jammu & Kashmir	NIL	NIL
5	Madhya Pradesh	NIL	NIL
6	Rajasthan	NIL	NIL
7	Telangana	11	 Damages to the nearest hut-men/houses due to blasting in mines. Related to accidents Unsafe practices Pollution. Long working hours.
8	West Bengal	NIL	NIL