GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2224 TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.12.2018

VIOLATION OF MINES SAFETY NORMS

†2224. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:

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

- (a) whether the Directorate General of Mines Safety of the Ministry has issued infringement letter regarding violation of mines safety norms:
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of infringement letters issued during the last three years;
- (c) the purpose of issuing these letters;
- (d) the difference between infringement letter, infringement notices and infringement orders and the time-interval prescribed for issuing above letters;
- (e) whether it is true that corrupt methods are reportedly adopted in issuing such letters; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto along with the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) under Ministry of Labour & Employment has issued a number of violation letters regarding violation of mines safety norms. During the last three years, the following number of violation letters were issued:

Year	No. of violation letter issued
2015	7,006
2016	6,768
2017	4,883

- (c): Violation letters are issued by Directorate General of Mines Safety to point out the violations observed of the Mines Act, 1952 and the Rules and Regulations framed thereunder; the Indian Electricity Act and the Rules and Regulations framed thereunder, during the course of inspection/inquiry.
- (d): (i) Violation letters are issued for the contraventions observed during the course of inspection. These letters are issued as soon as possible, after the inspection.
 - (ii) Notice (referred as infringement notice in the question) are issued under the provisions of sub section (1) of Section 22A of the Mines Act, 1952 which stipulates that:

"Where in respect of any matter relating to safety for which express provision is made by or under the Mines Act, 1952, the owner, agent or manager of the mine fails to comply with such provisions, the Chief Inspector may give notice in writing requiring the same to be complied within such time as he may specify in the notice or within such extended period of time as he may, from time to time, specify thereafter".

No time interval has been prescribed for issue of the Notice issued under the provisions of sub section (1) of Section 22A of the Mines Act, 1952.

(iii) (1) Order (referred as infringement order in the question) under the provisions of sub-section (2) of Section 22A of the Mines Act,1952 is imposed where the owner, agent or manager fails to comply with the terms of the given Notice under sub section (1) of Section 22A of the Mines Act,1952.

Order is issued as soon as the Notice period is expired.

- (2) Order under sub- section (3) of Section 22 of the Mines Act,1952 is issued when Chief Inspector or Inspector is of the opinion that there is urgent and immediate danger to the life or safety of any person employed in the mine or part thereof.
- (e): No such information has come to the notice of DGMS/Government.
- (f): Does not arise in view of the reply to part (e) above.
