

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3227
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2019**

MINING ACCIDENTS

**3227. DR. SANJEEV KUMAR SINGARI:
SHRI SANJAY SETH:**

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

- (a) the number of mining accidents reported during the last five years and the current year;**
- (b) the details of the number of deaths and injured persons in those accidents;**
- (c) the rate of mining accidents recorded in country during the last two years along with the measures/steps taken by the Government to prevent such accidents;**
- (d) whether the Government has drawn/provided adequate safety and security systems to combat any such fire accidents and other dangers arising out in mines and if so, the details thereof including the safety measures taken by the Government for fire safety and security in various mines in the country;**
- (e) the various steps taken by the Government to adhere and comply with international fire safety standard in the mines to protect mine workers; and**
- (f) the fund allocated, disbursed and spent on the safety and security of mines in the country during the said period?**

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): As per information provided by mine management to the Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) under Ministry of Labour and Employment, the details of the number of mining accidents, number of fatalities and injured persons reported during the last five years and the current year is as follows:

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Year	Number of fatal accidents	Number of serious accidents	Number of deaths	Number of injured persons
2014	98	423	107	454
2015	99	337	103	367
2016	106	305	144	326
2017	102	204	129	231
2018	97	215	116	241
2019*	81	113	93	130

* Data for the year 2019 are provisional and are as per the report received up to 31.10.2019.

(c): **The rate of mining accidents per thousand employees recorded in the country during the last two years is as follows:**

Year	Rate of fatal accidents	Rate of serious accidents
2017	0.1811	0.3623
2018	0.1723	0.3818

The following steps are taken by Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) to augment safety and efficiency of mines in the country:

(1) Inspection of mines by officers of DGMS to assess the safety parameters are conducted and following measures are taken :

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

(2) To maintain the safety of labourers working under great risk conditions in coal mines the following steps are also 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 are implemented to enhance the safety of mine workers.

(ii) Workers participation and sensitization in matters of safety are ensured through training in safety and by initiatives like observance 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.**

(d)&(e): Government has made provisions to deal with the safety issues pertaining to fire in coal, metalliferous and oil mines under regulations 134-142 of the Coal Mines Regulations, 2017, regulations 119-123 of the Metalliferous Mines Regulations, 1961 and regulations 97-101 of the Oil Mines Regulations, 2017 respectively. Compliance of the above provisions in mines by the mine owners/ management is checked during regular inspections carried out in mines by officers of DGMS.

In addition to the above provisions, following detail guidelines have been issued by the DGMS for addressing the hazards through risk analysis based “Safety Management System/Plan (SMP)” and for dealing with the emergency situations in mines, which, among others, are also very much relevant for the fire hazard:

- i. DGMS(Tech.)(S&T) Circular No. 13 of 2002 titled “Safety Management System – A guideline for implementation”;**
- ii. DGMS (Tech)(S&T) Circular No. 02 of 2011 titled “Safety Management System - Provision for auditing and review”;**
- iii. DGMS (Tech)(S&T) Circular No. 5 of 2016, titled “Integrated approach for development of Safety Management Plan for coal and metalliferous mines”; and**
- iv. DGMS (Tech)(S&T) Circular No. 8 of 2016, titled “Emergency Management Plan for Indian coal and metal mines”.**

The proactive approach of “Safety Management System” enables the mine management to address the site specific dangers by pinpointing the actual problem, which is in line with the present international practices. Also, the concept of “Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan” facilitates reduction in the response time to save life and property in case of emergency.

(f): No separate fund is allocated by the Ministry of Labour and Employment with regard to safety and security of mines in the country. The responsibilities of establishing safety and security systems in mines lies with mine owner/management. However, regular inspection and enquiry in the mines are being conducted by DGMS officials.
