

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COAL  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2675**  
ANSWERED ON 10/03/2021

**Security of Coal Mine Workers**

2675. SHRI ANIL FIROJIYA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any steps have been taken for the security of coal mine workers who remain exposed to grave danger at the time of mining;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any delay in purchase and use of advance systems that are available in terms of security; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, COAL AND MINES  
(SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): 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. Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) under the Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India administers this Act in the mining sector. The relevant Regulations/ Rules relating to safety of Coal mines are as below:

- a. Mines Act, 1952
- b. Coal Mines Regulations, 2017
- c. Mines Rules, 1955
- d. Mines Vocational Training Rules, 1966
- e. Mines Rescue Rules, 1985

Also, keeping in line with the mandate under the Mines Act, 1952, the Officers of DGMS undertake sample inspections of mines and based on the contraventions observed during the inspection action as provided under law is taken.

Further, Coal companies are availing services of different security agencies like Departmental Security, Directorate General of Resettlement (DGR) sponsored Security, Home Guards, Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) and State Industrial Security Force (SISF) for security.

Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) has taken following steps to improve safety standard of coal mine in the country:

- i) Sample inspection of Mines and action is taken as per law based on the observations during the inspections.
- ii) Enquiry into Accidents, Dangerous Occurrences etc. and action is taken as per law based on the findings of the enquiry,
- iii) Amendment of safety laws,
- v) Issue of guidelines for safer operations in identified thrust areas through circulars and issue of technical instructions to DGMS officers for their guidance.
- vi) Introduction of Risk Assessment Techniques and preparation of safety management plan aimed at elimination of risks and to ensure safety of workmen.
- vii) Introduction of standard operating procedures to avoid unsafe practices in mines.

In addition to above, the following steps to improve safety standard of coal mines are also being taken by coal companies:

1. Preparation and implementation of risk assessment based Safety Management Plans (SMPs).
2. Preparation and implementation of Principal Hazards Management Plans (PHMPs) along with Trigger Action Response Plan (TARP).
3. Formulation and compliance of Site-specific Risk Assessment based Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).
4. Conducting safety audit of mines.
5. Online Centralized Safety Monitoring System "CIL Safety Information System (CSIS)" has been developed for monitoring different safety parameters.

(c): Need-based safety items are procured in time as per requirement and provided to all mines.

(d): Does not arise in view of reply (c).

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