

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH RESEARCH**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.88
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3RD DECEMBER, 2021
SILICOSIS PATIENTS**

***88. DR. KRISHNA PAL SINGH YADAV:
SHRI PRATAP CHANDRA SARANGI:**

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Silicosis patients identified in the country, State/UT/district-wise, particularly in Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and Rajasthan;
- (b) the details and number of patients provided medical and financial assistance specifically in Guna, Ashoknagar, Shivpuri in Madhya Pradesh, Balasore in Odisha and Pali in Rajasthan;
- (c) the number of deaths that have occurred due to Silicosis and compensation mechanism formulated by the Government for such deaths;
- (d) whether the Government is taking steps to raise awareness and providing safeguards against Silicosis; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)**

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 88* FOR 3RD DECEMBER, 2021**

(a) to (c) Occupational safety and health survey for silicosis was carried out by Directorate General Factory Advice Service and Labour Institutes (DGFASLI) jointly with State Factory Inspectorates throughout the country. The details of the number of workers State-wise/UT-wise identified as suffering from Silicosis/Pneumoconiosis and the numbers of workers who had died due to Silicosis in the last 10 years as on 08.03.2018 are at Annexure I.

On the basis of information received from the mine owners by the Directorate General of Mines and Safety, and the Medical Camps conducted by National Institute of Miners health and that of Directorate General of Mines safety, the total number of Silicosis cases detected in the persons employed in the mines of the country, state / UT, district wise is at Annexure-II.

Health is a state subject and compensation for silicosis affected person is given under Employee Compensation Act, 1923 which is administered by Compensation Commissioners of respective States.

There are also provisions to protect the interest of labourers affected by the notified diseases under the Mines Act, 1952. The mines owners are required to comply with the provisions viz. to provide alternate employment in the mine for which he is medically fit, disability allowance determined in accordance with the rates prescribed etc

(d) & (e) Silicosis is a notified disease under the Mines Act (1952) and the Factories Act (1948). The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has also emphasized for regulation of working environment, protective equipment to workers with proper health education.

Indian Council of Medical Research -National Institute of Occupational Health (ICMR-NIOH) under Department of Health Research (DHR) has developed several technologies for reduction of dust levels and diagnosis of silicosis. It has also developed techniques for prevention and control of silicosis in agate workers and quartz cutting industries.

Silicosis health-care units have been established in silicosis-risk districts by the States, where free chest X-ray and pulmonary function tests are done. Regular inspections are made to industries that use silica, with active involvement of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) to ensure proper monitoring.

IEC Booklets about silicosis by 'National Institute of Occupational Health' (NIOH), India have been prepared and are available at: <http://niohenvi.nic.in/booklets/silicosis.pdf> and <http://niohenvi.nic.in/booklets/silicosis1.pdf>

Occupational Safety, Health, and Working Condition Code 2020 (OSHWC) has made it mandatory for all employers to provide annual health checks free of cost as prescribed by the appropriate Government.

Further, DGFASLI is conducting training programmes, workshops, seminars, conferences and appreciation programmes for creating awareness for the prevention and safeguard against Silicosis. The Chief Inspectors of Factories / Directorate of Industrial Safety and Health, (CIF/DISH) are also conducting awareness programmes on providing safeguards against Silicosis. Following measure have been taken to protect the mine workers:

- i. Wet drilling
- ii. Periodic monitoring of dust levels at workplace.
- iii. Use of Dust mask and Dust respirator as Personal Protective Equipments.
- iv. Initial Medical Examination before employment and periodical Medical Examinations of persons employed in mines at an interval of 5 years.
- v. Occupational Health Surveys
- vi. Awareness campaigns

ANNEXURE I

The details of the number of workers State-wise/UT-wise identified as suffering from Silicosis/Pneumoconiosis and the numbers of workers who had died due to Silicosis in the last 10 years as on 08.03.2018:

SI. No.	States/ UTs	The details of the number of workers suffering from silicosis / pneumoconiosis in the country state-wise and industry/mine-wise	Details of the number of workers who had died of silicosis during the last 10 years
1	Andhra Pradesh	NIL	NIL
2	Arunachal Pradesh	NIL	NIL
3	Assam	NIL	NIL
4	Bihar	NIL	NIL
5	Chhattisgarh	05	02
6	Goa	01	NIL
7	Gujarat	48	17
8	Haryana	53	01
9	Himachal Pradesh	NIL	NIL
10	Jharkhand	NIL	NIL
11	Karnataka	02	02
12	Kerala	04	NIL
13	Madhya Pradesh	131	162
14	Maharashtra	06	02
15	Meghalaya	NIL	NIL
16	Mizoram	NIL	NIL
17	Odisha	10	09
18	Punjab	NIL	NIL
19	Rajasthan	State labour department has sent 7 suspected cases to state silicosis board, none was confirmed by board	NIL
20	Sikkim	NIL	NIL
21	Tamil Nadu	04	01
22	Telangana	06	01
23	Tripura	NIL	NIL
24	Uttar Pradesh	NA	NA
25	Uttarakhand	NIL	NIL
26	Nagaland	01	NIL
27	Manipur	NA	NA
28	Jammu & Kashmir	NA	NA

	(Srinagar)		
29	West Bengal	31	NA
30	Andaman & Nicobar Island	NIL	NIL
31	Chandigarh	NIL	NIL
32	Daman & DIU (Daman)	NIL	NIL
33	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	NIL	NIL
34	Delhi	NIL	NIL
35	Lakshadweep	NIL	NIL
36	Puducherry	NIL	NIL
	Total	340	197

Total number of Silicosis cases detected in the persons employed in the mines of the country, state / UT, district wise

SI No.	State	District	No. of Silicosis Cases
1	Jharkhand	Dhanbad	2
		Pakur	5
		Koderma	2
		Sahibganj	1
		Giridih	1
2	Madhya Pradesh	Betul	6
		Ratlam	1
		Seoni	1
		Satna	2
		Jhabhua	5
		Neemuch	33
		Mandsaur	1
		Vidisha	15
3	Rajasthan	Bundi	7
		Dausa	2
		Sikar	4
		Jhunjhunu	3
		Bhilwara	9
		Udaipur	1
		Chittorgarh	32
		Sirohi	6
		Jalore	18
		Banswara	11
		Pratapgarh	6
		Rajsamand	1
		Jaipur	1
		Ajmer	1
		Dholpur	42
		Jodhpur	41
		Nagaur	15
		Bharatpur	15
4	Gujarat	Jamnagar	1
		Banaskantha	1
		Sabarkantha	3
		Aravali	2
		Gir Somnath	1
5	Karnataka	Ballari	5
		Bagalkot	9
		Raichur	4
		Gulbarga	13
6	Andhra Pradesh	Ananthapuram	11
		Vizianagram	6
7	Telangana	Nalgonda	2
		Suryapet	3
		Medchal	6
		Sangareddy	1
8	Tamilnadu	Krishnagiri	14
		Ariyalur	5
9	Chhattisgarh	Raigarh	2
10	Kerala	Kollam	2
11	Goa	North Goa	15
12	Uttar Pradesh	Lalitpur	07
		total	403
