

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COAL**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3158  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.12.2015**

**Accidents in Coal Mines**

**3158. SHRI RAGHAV LAKHANPAL:**

Will the **MINISTER OF COAL** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the accidents reported from the coal mines during each of the last three years and current year along with the reasons therefor, including action taken thereon, company and State-wise;
- (b) the funds allocated by the Government for ensuring the safety of workers and providing compensation to the families of the injured/deceased workers during the said period;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the contract workers engaged by Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries are not being paid as per the applicable laws and if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor along with the action taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government for relief, rehabilitation, welfare and safety of workers in all the coal mines of the country?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL,  
POWER AND NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)**

**(a):** Company-wise, State-wise and year-wise, the number fatal accidents & fatalities and serious accidents & serious injuries along with cause-wise break-up including action taken thereon during the last 3 (three) years and current year upto November are given in Annex-I.

**(b):** The subject of compensation provided to the deceased mine workers is beyond the purview of Mines Act, 1952, and respective mine managements provide compensation/relief which is dealt with by the Employees' Compensation Commissioner under the Employees' Compensation Act, 2010. However, funds allocated by Coal India Limited (CIL) & its Subsidiaries for ensuring the safety of workers during the said period is given in Table-I and the company-wise compensation paid as per Employee Compensation Act- 2009 to the families of deceased employees for last three years and current year are given at Table-II below:

**(Table-I)**

Funds allocated for safety in last three years and current year 2015-16

(Fig. in Rs Crore.)

Company	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
ECL	158.03	175.69	246.53	246.72
BCCL	28.2	35.85	25.24	22.77
CCL	36.39	16.36	20.79	34.22
NCL	9.03	9.30	11.07	12.06
WCL	113.65	91.25	93.33	107.00
SECL	190.61	179.53	182.84	180.00
MCL	49.42	57.42	56.51	59.56
NEC	0.49	1.01	0.73	1.35
CIL (Total)	585.82	566.41	637.04	663.68

**(Table-II)**

Year-wise, company-wise compensation paid as per Employee Compensation Act- 2009 to the families of deceased employees for last three years and current year:

(Fig. in Rs)

Company	2012	2013	2014	2015 (as on date)
ECL	64,11,242	43,09,200	35,14,300	16,38,640
BCCL	59,82,004	63,07,560	44,04,770	36,02,960
CCL	36,04,731	32,80,073	28,44,880	7,58,240
NCL	37,47,181	39,15,870	37,81,120	0
WCL	63,75,182	45,45,554	62,27,220	44,30,124
SECL	79,03,502	67,15,790	71,89,258	36,43,120
MCL	14,39,268	8,15,400	0	11,65,160
NEC	6,90,080	0	0	0
CIL	3,61,53,190	2,98,89,447	2,73,04,268	1,52,38,244

There is no separate fund allocated for providing compensation to the families of the injured / deceased workers.

(c): The contractors' workers engaged in mining activities are being paid wages as per the recommendation of High Power Committee, which has suggested wages based on the mid-way between the wages prescribed by the Central Govt. under Minimum Wages Act 1948 for the workers employed in schedule employed for non-coal mines and the wages payable to the lowest category of regular workers, i.e. Cat.I of NCWA-IX. The wages of minimum rate of wages of contractors' workers engaged in mining activities in Coal India Ltd. & its Subsidiaries w.e.f. 01.10.2015 is as under:-

Categories of Employee	Rates of wages including Variable Dearness Allowance (VDA) w.e.f. 01.10.2015 (in Rs.)
Unskilled	495.00
Semi-Skilled/Unskilled Supervisory	533.00
Skilled	571.00
Highly Skilled	609.00

(d): The steps taken by the CIL and its Subsidiaries for relief, rehabilitation, welfare and safety of workers in all the its coal mines of the country:

**(i) Relief and rehabilitation measures**

CIL provides the following compensation, relief etc. to the family of deceased who died in any mine accident arising out of and in course of employment.

1. Payment of compensation under Employee's Compensation Act - 2009 (amended).
2. Employment to the dependent of deceased departmental employee. If no eligible person for employment, monetary compensation in lieu of employment.
3. Rs. 5 lakhs to the dependent of deceased departmental employee as a special relief / ex-gratia (in addition to the amount payable under the Employee Compensation Act-2009 (amended)).
4. Immediate payment of lump sum amount (generally Rs 20,000) is paid to the family of deceased for funeral, transport expenses etc.
5. Monetary benefits under Life Cover Scheme (LCS) of Rs 1,12,800/ w.e.f. 1.2.2012 as per NCWA-IX.
6. Ex-gratia amount of Rs 84,600/ in case of death or permanent total disablement resulting on account of accident arising out of and in course of employment w.e.f.1.2.2012 as per NCWA-IX.
7. Gratuity on the basis of the length of service (maximum ceiling Rs, 10, 00,000)
8. Other benefits like P.F as per CMPF rule, Pension as per CMPS, 1998, Encashment of EL etc as company (CIL) rules.

In case of serious bodily injury / disablement in course of employment:

- I. Full basic wages and dearness allowance from the date of accident till employee is declared fit by the Company's Medical Officer. The disabled employee will have to remain under treatment of Company's Medical Officer or in a hospital approved /referred by the company.
- II. Compensation under the Workmen (Employee) Compensation Act-1923 is being paid to serious bodily-injured person involved with permanent disability, after due assessment of the percentage of permanent disability by an approved Medical Board.
- III. Ex-gratia amount of Rs 84,600/ (w.e.f 1.2.2012)as per NCWA-IX is paid to injured employee in case of permanent total disablement resulting on account of accident out of and in course of employment.

**(ii) Welfare measures:**

The Coal Companies pay greater attention to the Welfare of their workers and their families which apart from statutory welfare facilities, include Housing and Water supply, educational facilities, facilities for Cooperative stores and credit societies, banking facilities and medical facilities, as per the policy of CIL.

**Safety measures**

The following steps taken by the Government to prevent such accidents in all the coal mines in the country :-

- (i) Replacement of manual loading and transportation at the coal faces by mechanized drilling, loading and transportation;

- (ii) Continuous environment monitoring in gassy mines for forewarning of any accumulation of inflammable gas, presence of noxious gases including Co, Co<sub>2</sub> and deficiency of oxygen in mine atmosphere;
- (iii) Replacement of low capacity loading and transport machinery by high capacity machines in open cast mines, for reducing the traffic in mines and accidents in opencast operations;
- (iv) Initiatives for improving the skills of the operators and competent persons using most modern training aids like simulators, 3D Artificial Intelligent Audio-Visuals;
- (v) Promotion and propagation of safety awareness in mines.
- (vi) Ensuring Worker's participation and sensitization in matters of safety through training in safety and by initiatives like celebration of safety week and safety campaigns, etc.
- (vii) Safety training programmes for Managers and Supervisors for improving safety standards in mines.
- (viii) Introduction of Risk Assessment Techniques aimed at elimination of risks and to ensure safety of workmen.
- (ix) Standard operating procedures to avoid unsafe practices in mines.
- (x) Organising special safety awareness campaign to increase awareness of mine workers (i.e., 'Safety is My Responsibility').

Apart from compliance of the statutory provisions as laid down in the Mines Act, 1952, the Coal Mine Regulations- 1957 and Byelaws & Standing Order framed there under, CIL has taken several remedial measures to prevent fatalities and to improve the standard of safety are as under:

1. CIL has established a structured multi-disciplinary Internal Safety Organization (ISO) to assist the line management at various levels in matters related to Safety.
2. Risk Assessment & Safety Management Plan: Risk assessment based Safety Management Plans have been prepared for all mines of CIL. It is an on-going process for continuous improvement of safety standards in mines.
3. Safety Audit of the mines is being conducted from time to time.
4. Steps are being taken for Disaster Prevention:
5. Special Safety Drives are conducted periodically to assess the level of compliance of safety norms in each mine. Annual safety fortnight is also conducted once every year for the same purpose.
6. Other safety measures initiated recently:
  - Special training programme for safety officers and other key mining officials directly engaged in ensuring safety at mines by the SIMTARS, Australia accredited executives.
  - Several R&D projects on safety have also been initiated.
  - Spreading knowledge and coal mine safety related information through publication of quarterly safety bulletin from CIL.

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**Annex.-I**

(i) Company-wise, State-wise fatal accidents & fatalities in Coal India Limited (CIL) for last 3 years and current year (upto November) are as under:

Company	Operating State	Fatal Accidents				Fatalities			
		2012	2013	2014	2015	2012	2013	2014	2015
ECL	WB & Jharkhand	11	8	6	6	11	8	6	6
BCCL	Jharkhand & WB	12	10	7	6	12	13	7	6
CCL	Jharkhand	5	9	5	1	6	9	5	1
NCL	MP & UP	7	6	6	0	7	6	6	0
WCL	Maharashtra & MP	9	8	9	7	10	9	10	7
SECL	Chhatisgarh & MP	10	13	11	10	11	13	12	10
MCL	Odisha	2	1	0	3	2	1	0	3
NEC	Assam	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
CIL		57	55	44	33	60	59	46	33

(ii) Company-wise, State-wise serious accidents & serious injuries in CIL for last 3 years and current year (upto November):

Company	Operating State	Serious Accidents				Serious Injuries			
		2012	2013	2014	2015	2012	2013	2014	2015
ECL	WB & Jharkhand	86	61	69	36	89	62	69	37
BCCL	Jharkhand & WB	28	17	17	9	30	17	17	9
CCL	Jharkhand	9	7	7	5	9	7	7	5
NCL	MP & UP	9	17	9	18	9	17	9	19
WCL	Maharashtra & MP	29	45	36	15	29	47	38	18
SECL	Chhatisgarh & MP	43	39	31	32	45	40	32	34
MCL	Odisha	8	10	13	4	8	10	13	4
NEC	Assam	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
CIL		212	196	183	119	219	200	186	126

(iii) Cause-wise break-up fatalities in CIL for last 3 years from 2012 to 2014 and current year 2015 (upto November):

Company	State	Year	Roof/side Falls	Haulage, Conveyor & Winding	Trucks, Dumpers & Wagons	Non-transport m/cs	Explosives	Electricity	Fall of person / objects	MISC.	Total
ECL	West Bengal & Jharkhand	2012	3	1	3	3	0	0	0	1	11
		2013	2	1	3	0	0	0	1	1	8
		2014	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	6
		2015	1	1	2	0	0	0	1	1	6
BCCL	Jharkhand & West Bengal	2012	0	1	5	1	0	0	3	2	12
		2013	5	0	2	1	0	0	2	3	13
		2014	0	0	1	2	0	0	3	1	7
		2015	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	2	6
CCL	Jharkhand	2012	0	0	2	1	0	0	1	2	6

		2013	0	0	4	1	0	1	2	1	9
		2014	1	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	5
		2015	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
NCL	MP & UP	2012	0	0	2	1	1	0	3	0	7
		2013	0	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	6
		2014	0	0	4	0	0	0	2	0	6
		2015	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WCL	Maharashtra & MP	2012	1	0	0	1	1	1	2	4	10
		2013	2	0	5	2	0	0	1	0	9
		2014	1	0	6	3	0	0	0	0	10
		2015	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	3	7
SECL	Chhattisgarh & MP	2012	3	1	3	1	0	2	0	1	11
		2013	2	1	3	4	0	1	2	0	13
		2014	6	0	0	1	1	0	1	3	12
		2015	3	0	1	2	0	2	1	1	10
MCL	Odisha	2012	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
		2013	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
		2014	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		2015	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
NEC	Assam	2012	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
		2013	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		2014	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		2015	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CIL		2012	7	3	17	8	2	4	9	10	60
		2013	11	2	22	8	0	2	8	6	59
		2014	10	1	12	8	1	0	8	6	46
		2015	4	2	9	6	0	3	2	7	33

(iv) Company-wise, State-wise, cause-wise serious injuries in CIL during last 3 years and current year (upto November):

Company	State	Year	Roof/side Falls	Haulage, Conveyor & Winding	Trucks, Dumpers & Wagons	Non-transport m/cs	Explosives	Electricity	Others	Total
ECL	West Bengal & Jharkhand	2012	5	3	3	0	0	0	78	89
		2013	5	1	0	0	0	0	61	67
		2014	3	5	0	0	0	0	57	65
		2015	5	1	0	1	0	0	30	37
BCCL	Jharkhand & West Bengal	2012	3	2	2	1	0	0	22	30
		2013	3	1	1	1	0	0	12	18
		2014	2	0	0	0	0	0	14	16
		2015	1	0	1	0	0	0	7	9
CCL	Jharkhand	2012	0	1	1	1	0	0	6	9
		2013	0	0	1	0	0	0	5	6
		2014	0	1	0	0	0	1	4	6
		2015	0	1	1	2	0	0	1	5

NCL	MP & UP	2012	0	0	4	1	0	0	4	9
		2013	0	0	7	0	0	0	10	17
		2014	0	0	3	1	0	0	6	10
		2015	0	0	5	0	0	0	14	19
WCL	Maharashtra & MP	2012	5	2	0	1	0	0	21	29
		2013	6	0	4	1	0	0	35	46
		2014	4	2	3	1	1	0	27	38
		2015	1	0	5	1	0	0	11	18
SECL	Chhatisgarh & MP	2012	8	4	2	2	0	0	29	45
		2013	12	3	1	6	0	0	18	40
		2014	4	1	1	6	0	0	20	32
		2015	4	5	1	3	2	3	16	34
MCL	Odisha	2012	0	2	1	0	0	0	5	8
		2013	0	0	3	1	0	0	7	11
		2014	1	0	5	2	0	0	3	11
		2015	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4
NEC	Assam	2012	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		2013	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		2014	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
		2015	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CIL		2012	21	14	13	6	0	0	165	219
		2013	26	5	17	9	0	0	143	200
		2014	12	8	15	10	1	1	136	186
		2015	11	7	13	7	2	3	83	126

(iv) Appropriate disciplinary actions have been taken against those persons who are held responsible in Internal Safety Organisation (ISO) inquiries on the basis of finding of the ISO enquiries after due review and obtaining required approval of the competent authority. Details of disciplinary actions taken against those persons who are held responsible in ISO inquiries are as under:

Year	ECL	BCCL	CCL	NCL	WCL	SECL	MCL	NEC	Total
2012	16	11	12	22	33	32	5	1	132
2013	20	18	12	8	26	34	0	0	118
2014	7	12	9	23	45	37	0	0	133
2015	4	7	1	0	18	28	4	0	62
Total	47	48	34	53	122	131	9	1	445

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