

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4031
ANSWERED ON:20.08.2001
ACCIDENTS IN MINES
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Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether in view of recent accidents in Collieries of various ancillaries of BCCL and Coal India Limited special safety arrangements have been made by the Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) to prevent accidents in coal and non-coal mines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, separately;
- (c) the details of restricted and other type of inquiry conducted by DGMS in various coal and non-coal mines during the last three years and current year 2001, separately;
- (d) the details of outcome of inquiry report; and
- (e) the details of action taken by the Government on the basis of the inquiry report?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL)

(a) & (b): Provisions for safety of persons employed in mines are contained in the Mines Act, 1952 and the Rules and Regulations framed thereunder. The safety laws are kept under constant review and amended from time to time. The Directorate General of Mines Safety also issues guidelines in the form of circulars to the management for improving safety measures. These provisions are required to be complied with by the mine managements. The officers of the Directorate General of Mines Safety inspect the mines periodically to oversee the status of compliance with the safety provisions, and to take action as provided for under the Mines Act, 1952, in case of default.

After the disaster in Bagdigi colliery of Bharat Coking Coal Limited due to inrush of water, a circular has been issued by Directorate General of Mines Safety to all the mining companies regarding accuracy in surveying and preparation of accurate plans in respect of below ground mines particularly while working near mine boundaries and in vicinity of old water logged workings.

Besides the legislative measures, the Directorate General of Mines Safety is promoting the following initiatives to prevent accidents in coal mines.

- (i) Conference on safety in mines.
- (ii) Self-regulation by management.
- (iii) Workers` participation in safety management.
- (iv) Tripartite and Bipartite reviews at various levels.
- (v) Training of workers.
- (vi) Observance of safety weeks and Safety Campaigns.
- (vii) National Safety Awards.

(c), (d) & (e): The number of inspections and enquiries made in coal/non-coal Mines by officers of Directorate General of Mines Safety during 1998-2001 (upto July) are as under:-

Year Inspection Enquiries

1998 7457 9011
 1999 9365 11193
 2000 6592 7698
 2001+ 2441 (coal) 489 (coal)
 (upto July)

+ Provisional

Each and every fatal accident that occurred in Coal as well as non coal mines during the last three years and as in current year has been enquired by officers of Directorate General of Mines Safety. Suitable action has been taken against the persons held responsible for the accidents. Action taken against persons held responsible for fatal accidents in Coal Mines and Non coal mines is given below:

(a) Type Action taken 1998 1999 2000 2001
 of by DGMS upto July+
 action

1. Suspension/Cancellation of certificate 0 1 0 0

2. Warnings issued 25 99 1 0

3. Prosecution launched 155 133 104 2

4. Misadventure-No action 7 13 8 0

5. Other Action taken 12 9 0 0

(b) Action taken by Management

1. Suspended 73 66 36 0

2. Debarred from promotion 3 8 2 0

3. Demoted 3 2 4 0

4. Transferred 2 1 1 0

5. Increment withheld 17 21 13 0

6. Service Terminated 14 15 11 0

7 Warned by Management 47 42 10 0

8. Disciplinary 6 4 2 0

9. Deceased No Action 51 44 50 0

+ Figures are provisional and for coal mines.

