

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
LABOUR  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:96  
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2003  
ANNUAL DEATH RATE OF WORKERS IN INDUSTRIAL SECTOR  
DINESH CHANDRA YADAV;RAM JEEVAN SINGH

**Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government have made any assessment of annual unnatural death rate of workers in the Industrial sector in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the major reasons identified by the Government for the workers` deaths and also for serious injuries; and
- (d) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure safety of the industrial workers?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SAHIB SINGH VERMA)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 96 for 08.12.2003 regarding Annual death rate of workers in industrial sector raised by Shri Ramjivan Singh and Shri Dinesh Chandra Yadav.

(a) & (b): The Directorate General of Mines Safety compiles annually the figures relating to occurrence of deaths in the mining sector. The details of the deaths due to accidents in the factory premises are also compiled by the Directorate General of Factory Advice Services and Labour Institutes on the basis of reports received from the Chief Inspectors of Factories of respective States/Union Territories. These details for the last two years are enclosed in the Annexure.

(c): The analysis of the causes of accidents indicates that major causes of fatal accidents are due to fall of roof in coal mines and through the involvement of Dumpers, Trucks etc. in non-coal mines. The fall of persons and fall of objects are also responsible for a number of serious accidents in coal and non-coal mines respectively. In the manufacturing sector, the following have been identified as the major reasons for the workers` deaths and serious injuries:-

- i. Fall from height (non-use of safety harness).
- ii. Run over by transport equipment.
- iii. Exposure to toxic chemicals.
- iv. Burn injury due to Fire.
- v. Explosion.
- vi. Working in confined space having oxygen deficiency, and due to the presence of other obnoxious gases.
- vii. Limbs getting between moving parts on unguarded machines.
- viii. Struck by and striking against objects. Fall of objects also are causes of accidents frequently.
- ix. Improper maintenance of plant and machinery.
- x. Accidents caused due to fall on slippery surfaces.

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

Similarly the Factories Act, 1948 and the rules framed thereunder provide for the safety and health provisions for workers employed in manufacturing sector. The State Governments through their Inspectorate of Factories enforce these provisions and also investigate into the fatal accidents. Periodic inspections are carried out by Inspectors, particularly of the hazardous units, to ensure that the provisions of the Act are complied by them. In case of defaults, penal action is taken as per the provisions of the Act.

Besides the legislative measures, Government also promotes the concept of safety and health among the workers through a number of other initiatives, such as:-

- i. Self-regulation by managements through Safety Audit.
- ii. Workers` participation in safety management through Safety Weeks and Safety Campaigns.
- iii. Training of work persons through Workshops and Seminars.
- iv. National Safety Awards.
- v. Tri-partite and Bi-partite reviews at various levels.

## Annexure

### Fatal injuries in respect of Factories and Mines

State      No. of Fatalities      No. of Fatalities in Mines  
in Factories

2001 2002    2001 2002

A & N Islands	NA	4		
Andhra Pradesh	118	99	36	28
Assam	15	09	06	0
Bihar & Jharkhand	31	NA	59	39
Chandigarh	0	0		
Chattisgarh	NA	NA	08	08
D & Diu and D & N Haveli	4	NA		
Goa	4	13	03	01
Gujarat	169	228	03	02
Haryana	38	34	04	02
Himachal Pradesh	NA	NA	02	05
Jammu & Kashmir	NA	NA	0	0
Karnataka	NA	47	07	02
Kerala	16	NA	01	0
Madhya Pradesh	31	NA	19	19
Maharashtra	177	156	12	15
Manipur	NA	NA		
Meghalaya	0	NA	0	0
N. C. T of Delhi	02	NA		
Orissa	20	33	13	11
Pondicherry	04	05		
Punjab	05	23		
Rajasthan	33	55	17	16
Tamil Nadu	37	36	09	01
Tripura	0	02	0	01
Uttar Pradesh	70	NA	01	0
Uttaranchal	01	09	01	01
West Bengal	50	NA	20	10

Total      825 753    222 161