

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3439
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2008
ACCIDENTS IN COAL MINES
Murmu Shri Rupchand

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the mining accidents have come down during last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, company-wise and year-wise;
- (c) whether the Coal India Limited and the subsidiaries, particularly Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) have declared 2008-09 as the zero-accident year;
- (d) if so, the details thereof company-wise; and
- (e) the efforts to be taken by Coalfield Companies of CIL to improve the Safety Performance?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA)

(a) & (b): Mining accidents have shown varying trends during last three years and details of mine accidents company-wise and year-wise during the said period are given below:

Company	Fatal Accidents			Fatalities			Serious Accidents			Serious Injuries		
	05	06	07	05	06	07	05	06	07	05	06	07

Eastern Coalfields Ltd 15 8 7 16 13 8 123 102 105 125 105 115

Bharat Coking Coal Ltd 12 11 10 17 60 10 71 45 66 76 47 66

Central Coalfields Ltd 8 4 7 22 4 8 24 19 16 24 19 16

Northern Coalfields Ltd 3 4 5 3 5 5 18 15 10 19 15 10

Western Coalfields Ltd 11 13 12 11 13 12 47 57 60 48 60 61

South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. 14 7 10 15 7 10 93 68 60 98 72 63

Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd 9 2 4 9 2 4 13 10 9 13 17 9

Total: Coal India Ltd 73 49 55 94 104 57 391 317 356 405 336 340

Note: Figures for 2006, 2007 are subject to reconciliation with DGMS

(c) to (e): CIL and its subsidiary companies are making all out efforts to minimise the number of accidents. In addition to compliance with the statues related to coal mine safety the following safety measures are being adopted by CIL and its subsidiary companies:-

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. Conducting Safety Audit in mines at regular intervals.
3. Risk Assessment & Management, as a tool for enhancement of safety, has been introduced and is being conducted in each subsidiary company of CIL.
4. Increased Workers participation through Pit Safety Committee, Bipartite & Tripartite Committee meeting.
5. Towards avoidance of accidents due to inundation the following measures are being taken:-
 - a. Taking the required preventive measure against danger of inundation after assessment of danger from underground and surface sources of water in each mine prior to every monsoon.
 - b. Conducting of check surveys by company's surveyors as well as crosschecking the same in some cases by external agencies like Indian School of Mines (ISM) and Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited (CMPDIL).
6. Thrust on measures for reduction of roof and side fall accidents in belowground mines are being continued by
 - a. Drawing use of Support Plans based on Rock Mass Rating (RMR) and implementation of same.
 - b. Greater use of Roof Bolting/Stitching methods of roof support by quick setting cement capsules.
 - c. Introduction of mechanized drilling by roof bolting machines thereby improving quality of roof bolting as well as reducing exposure of roof-bolting crew to hazard of roof fall.
 - d. Introduction of Resin grouted roof bolts in watery seams.
 - e. Training and re-training of Support Personnel and Supervisors.
 - f. Reducing exposure of workmen by increasing mechanization of operations in underground mines through the use of Side Discharge Loaders (SDL)/Load Haul Dumpers (LHDs), Powered Support Longwall (PSLW) & Continuous Miners.
7. Measures for reduction of accidents in Opencast mines are being pursued through
 - a. Implementation of various Codes of Practices for cooperation and maintenance of Heavy Earth Moving Machinery (HEMM) for Drilling and Blasting, for transmission, distribution supply and use of electricity, for deployment of Contractor's workers for working in heights etc, traffic rules, checking of contractor's vehicles/equipment by company's engineers.
 - b. Training of Heavy Earth Moving Machinery operators and contractor's workers.
8. Thrust is being maintained on preparedness for emergencies through
 - a. Reviewing Emergency Action Plans for each and every working district in underground mines.
 - b. Demarcating escape routes on plans, as well as in working areas belowground.
 - c. Conducting mock rehearsals and monitoring failure points for further improvement.
 - d. Enhancement of safety awareness through publicity and propaganda, safety drives, safety weeks etc.