

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1625  
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2010  
HEALTH OF MINES LABOURERS/ WORKERS  
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Viswanathan Shri P.

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study regarding the likely effects on the health of the labourers/workers engaged in mining;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the findings of study and the steps taken by Government to improve health of such miners; and
- (d) the medical and other facilities available to such miners in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) to (c): Though no study has been conducted by the Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) yet, however, based on inspections, enquiries and statutory information furnished by the coal mining companies it has been observed that silicosis and pneumoconiosis are the two common occupational diseases and have been notified by the Government accordingly. Moreover elaborate provisions exist under the Coal Mines Regulations, 1957 regarding precaution against dust, execution measures for dust control, checks on measures for dust control, stone dust barriers, standard of ventilation and velocity of air current. Similarly, elaborate provisions exist under Metalliferous Mines Regulations, 1961. These provisions are rigorously followed up during inspections and enquiries and corrective measures are initiated wherever required.

(d): Under the Mines Rules, 1955 provisions for medical facilities in the form of first aid stations and first aid rooms for the benefit of persons employed in mines are statutorily mandated. Every worker is subject to elaborate initial medical examination prior to employment and thereafter periodical medical examination once in every five years irrespective of working status/position of the employee.