

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:858

ANSWERED ON:27.11.2012

ACCIDENTS IN COAL MINES

Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram; Biswal Shri Hemanand ; Mitra Shri Somendra Nath

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether there has been an increase in the number of accidents including fire accidents due to negligence of safety norms in the coal mining sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years and the current year, State-wise and colliery-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to make any new arrangement for compliance of safety norms;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government is considering to make safety inspection of mines mandatory for the safety of mining workers and mines in the coal sector; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof along with the compensation given to the victims of coal mine accidents, State-wise and colliery-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL)

(a)&(b): The overall trend of fatal accidents including fire accidents, in CIL for last three years is as below. The number of fatal accidents and fatalities in 2011 compared to 2010 were significantly low. Brief details of fatal accidents and fatalities in CIL mines for last three years and current year is given below:

Sl. Parameters 2009 2010 2011 2012 (upto October)
No.

1 Numbers of fatal accidents 55 72 50 49
2 Numbers of fatalities 62 90 52 51

Year-wise, mine-wise and company-wise details of fatal accidents and fatalities in CIL for last three years and current year up to October are given in Annexure-1.

(c)&(d) :Yes, Sir. Mines Act, 1952 which deals with occupational safety, health and welfare of persons employed in mines is under amendment with more emphasis on accountability of top management including the owner and agent; and the penalties have been proposed to be enhanced for being more deterrent in case of non-compliance of safety, health and welfare provisions required to be provided in mines.

The Mines Amendment Bill, 2011 is under consideration of the Parliament.

Coal Mines Regulations, 1957 is being amended to update and upgrade the safety and health provisions.

(e): Regular mine inspections by the competent mine officials is mandatory as per the provisions made under Coal Mines Regulation 1957. Similarly, mine inspections of Safety Committee Members and Workmen Inspectors of each mine have been stipulated under The Mine Rules 1955.

(f): The amount of Compensation paid to the families of deceased persons along with the cases of compensation/employment pending, mine-wise, State wise and year wise are given in Annexure-2.