

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:386
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2013
ACCIDENTS IN COAL MINES
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Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of accidents including fire accidents that occurred in various coal mines during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise and colliery-wise;
- (b) the number of coal mine workers who lost their lives or were seriously injured in mining operations in the country during the said period, State-wise and colliery-wise;
- (c) the details of cases in which due compensation has so far been paid to the next of kin of those killed and to those seriously injured during the said period along with the nature amount of compensation paid, State-wise and colliery-wise;
- (d) the time by which all the cases for compensation are likely to be cleared; and
- (e) the preventive measures taken by the Government to minimise such fatal accidents during coal mining operations?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL)

(a)&(b): The number fatal accidents and fatalities during last three years from 2010 to 2012 and current year up to Jan, 2013 in CIL's mine and SCCL, State-wise, Company-wise, and Mine-wise are given in Annexure-1 and the number of serious accidents and serious injuries for the said period, company-wise, and state-wise serious injuries in the said period are given in Annexure - 2.

(c): The details of cases in which due compensation has so far been paid to the next of kin of those died in mining accidents as per Workmen (Employee's) Compensation Act, 1923, Company-wise, State-wise and Mine-wise is given in Annexure -3.

(d): Five cases are pending for the year 2012, which are under process. So far as SCCL is concerned compensation for the mine accidents are cleared within a month's time and Compensation has been paid in all the cases of last three years. Further, Compensation payment for the latest two cases (February, 2013) is under process. Ex-gratia has been paid in both the cases.

(e): The following measures are taken to minimize such fatal accidents during coal mining operations:-

Each and every fatal accident occurred in mines is enquired into by the officers of DGMS and based on the findings of enquiry, necessary actions are taken against the persons held responsible for the accident.

The accidents in mines are analyzed and mines having higher frequency of accidents are identified. Such identified mines are kept on priority for inspections and defects/violations found during the course of inspections are constantly followed up to see that those are removed /complied with.

Besides this, DGMS also takes the following measures for improvement of safety conditions in mines:

Issue of guidelines for safe operations in identified thrust areas through circulars.

Generating safety awareness and information dissemination.

Interactions at different fora with a view to promote safety, health and welfare of persons employed in mines.

Introduction of Risk Assessment and Safety Management System, preparation of Safety Management Plan and development of Emergency Response System.

Facilitating introduction of new technology in mining with low risk potential.

Further the Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines under the Chairmanship of Minister of Coal also discuss the Safety aspects and directed all the concerned for adhering to the best practices and aim at zero harm to miners.