

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3345
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2013
WORK RELATED DISEASES
Singh Smt. Meena

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

- (a) whether there are adequate statutory provisions for the safety and environmentally friendly workplace for workers specially in hazardous industries such as salt production industries, etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the steps taken by the Government to ensure the effective implementation of these laws in such hazardous industries;
- (c) whether compensations are given to the families of workers who have lost their lives due to work related diseases/accidents/deaths in such hazardous industries;
- (d) if so, the details thereof during the current year and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether there is any National Policy on safety and welfare of workers in such industries; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with the action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Government has framed a comprehensive legislation i.e. the Factories Act, 1948 for taking care of the occupational safety, health & welfare issues of the workers employed in Factories/Manufacturing Sector including the salt production industries. However, the salt production industries do not come under the category of hazardous process industries, as defined under Section 2(cb) of the Factories Act, 1948. The enforcement of the provisions of the Act and Rules framed thereunder are carried out by the respective State Governments/Union Territories through their State Factories Inspectorates/Directorates.

(c) & (d): The details of compensation paid to families of the victims are not centrally maintained. The compensation is paid by the respective management/employer based on the amount determined by the Compensation Commissioner under the Employees' Compensation Act, 1923.

(e) & (f): Yes, Madam. The Government of India had declared the National Policy on Safety, Health and Environment at Workplace on 20th February, 2009. The purpose of this National Policy is to establish a preventive safety and health culture in the country through elimination of the incidents of work related injuries, diseases, fatalities, disasters and to enhance the well-being of employees in all the sectors of economic activity in the country.

The Policy contains preamble, goals, objectives & action programme: The action programme includes enforcement, national standards, compliance, awareness, research & development, occupational safety and health, skills development, data collection and review.