

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6219
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2013
WORKERS IN SHIP BREAKING INDUSTRY
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Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether many workers have lost their lives in various hazardous workplaces including ship breaking industry and the Sterile Copper Smelter plant at Tuticorin due to poisonous gas leaks and utter disregard for workers safety;
- (b) if so, the details of such cases during the last three years and the current year, year-wise and factory/company-wise;
- (c) whether any compensation has been paid to families of the deceased workers and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has inspected such workplaces for safety and other labour law violations;
- (e) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and current year and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government for the safety and environmentally friendly workplaces for workers specially in such hazardous industry/workplaces?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) The details of workers who lost their lives in various hazardous workplaces and compensation paid to their families is not centrally maintained. However, as per information received from Directorate General Factory Advice Service and Labour Institutes (DGFASLI), the fatal and non fatal injuries in factories including ship breaking industry registered under the Factories Act, 1948 for the last three years i.e. 2009, 2010 & 2011 is given at Annexure-I. As per available information received from Chief Inspector of Factories of Tamilnadu, no worker has lost his life due to poisonous gas leaks in the Sterlite Copper Smelter plant at Tuticorin.

(d) & (e) Yes, the Government have inspected such hazardous factories registered under the Factories Act, 1948, so as to ensure that the occupiers comply with the provisions on safety, health, welfare and provisions related to hazardous processes contained under Factories Act, 1948 and Rules framed thereunder. The Act and the State Factories Rules are enforced by the respective State Governments through their State Factories Inspectorate / Directorate.

The details of the number of factories inspected and State-wise prosecutions and convictions under Section 92&96A of the Factories Act, 1948 during last three years i.e. 2009, 2010 and 2011 is enclosed as Annexure-IIA, Annexure-IIB, Annexure-IIC, Annexure-IIIA Annexure-IIIB & Annexure-IIIC.

(f) Yes, Adequate provisions already exist under the Factories Act, 1948 and the Model Factories Rules framed thereunder for the manufacturing sector.

Government of India, Ministry of Labour & Employment, had declared the National Policy on Safety, Health and Environment at Workplace (NPSHEW) on 20th February, 2009 which is applicable to all economic activities.