

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2803
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2009
SAFETY COMMITTEE OF MINES
Munda Shri Arjun ;Ram Shri Purnmasi

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

- (a) whether the Mines Rules 1955, chapter-IVB stipulates formation of Safety Committee of Mines (SCM) to promote safety in the mines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of meetings held since constitution of SCM, year-wise;
- (c) the details of matter discussed under SCM alongwith the action taken thereon; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government for welfares and upliftment of labourers/workers engaged in Mines?

Answer

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

- (a): Yes, Madam.
- (b): This is an activity of Mine Management and details of meetings of Safety Committee of Mines are not centrally maintained.
- (c): As per the provision of the Mines Rules, 1955, the functions of the Committee are as follows:
 - (i) To discuss remedial measures against the unsafe conditions and practices in the mine as pointed out in the reports of workmen's inspector or otherwise brought to the notice of the Committee and make appropriate recommendations;
 - (ii) to consider, before commencement of operations in any new district of mine or commissioning of new electrical or mechanical installation or introduction of new mining technique, the proposed safety and health measures including related codes of practice and to make appropriate recommendations;
 - (iii) To discuss the report of inquiry into accident and make appropriate recommendations;
 - (iv) to formulate and implement appropriate safety campaigns based on analysis of accidents;
 - (v) to meet at least once in 30 days to consider the matter placed before it and any other matter that may be raised by the members and make such recommendations as it may deem fit; and
 - (vi) to serve as a forum for communication on safety and occupational health matters.

As per the provisions of Mines Rules, 1955 the owner, agent or manager shall, within a period of 15 days from the date of receipt of the recommendations of the Safety Committee, shall indicate to the Secretary to the Safety Committee, the action taken to implement the recommendations.

- (d): There is a provision under Rule 72 of Mines Rules, 1955 for appointment of Welfare Officer in every mine where 500 or more persons are employed. The appointment of Welfare Officer is primarily the responsibility of mines management. During the inspection by the officers of Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) implementation of this rule is looked into. Duties of welfare officer have been specified under rule 73 of Mines Rules, 1955.