

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1143  
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2015  
SAFETY FOR WORKERS  
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**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether a number of occupational diseases at workplaces/ factories/mines have been reported;
- (b) if so, the details of such diseases reported during each of the last three years and the current year, sector and State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether steps have been taken by the Government for regular checkup of such workers and miners in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the various steps taken by the Government to create health care awareness about occupational diseases amongst the workers/ labourers working in various hazardous workplaces including factories/ mines?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE(IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

(a) & (b): The State-wise number of cases of occupational diseases in the country during the last three years and the current year, as reported by the mining sector to Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS), is given at Annexure-I.

As per the information collected from the Chief Inspector of Factories, the State-wise details of Occupational diseases reported during the years 2011, 2012 and 2013 is given at Annexure-II.

(c) & (d): Yes, there are adequate provisions for regular medical examination for the workers employed in such dangerous operations and in hazardous process industries.

The statutes and general guidelines for ensuring safety and health is available in the form of comprehensive legislation enacted by the Government of India, for the workers employed in the manufacturing sector, namely, the Factories Act, 1948. The Factories Act, 1948 is the principal legislation for regulating various aspects relating to safety, health and welfare of workers employed in factories. Section 41C (c) of the Factories Act, 1948 provide for periodical medical examination of every worker involved in a hazardous process. Further, Section 87 of the Act provides that every State Government may notify such operations as dangerous operations and frame rules for ensuring safety and health of workers which includes periodical medical examinations.

Being an enforcement agency, DGMS does not directly operate any welfare schemes like regular health checkup for mining workers. However, the matters relating to safety, health and welfare of persons employed in mines are covered under the provisions of Mines Act, 1952 and Rules and Regulations made there under. To see that the mine management carries out the mining operations in accordance with the legal provisions to ensure safety, health and welfare of workers, officers of DGMS make periodic inspections of mines.

(e): The following steps have been taken by the Government to create health awareness about occupational diseases amongst the workers working in mines and factories:

# Training workshops on "Detection of Pneumoconiosis and use of ILO Classification of Chest Radiographs- 2000" in collaboration with National Institute of Miners Health were conducted during 2012, 2013 and 2014 in which 102 medical officers from different mining companies throughout country had been trained.

# Two days Workshop was conducted by DGMS during 2014 at Meghalaya in which 30 medical officers of Meghalaya have been trained.

For factories workers:-

(i) Training programmes on occupational health for plant medical officers, industrial nurses and health workers including training programmes on silicosis and asbestosis with ILO radiographs.

(ii) Three months certificate course for doctors (AFIH).

(iii) In-plant training programmes at the industrial level on occupational health to create awareness on occupational health.

(iv) An educational film on silicosis has been prepared for the workers working in silica prone industries.

(v) Industrial Medical laboratory is visited by industrial workers, nursing students, medical students, factory medical officers, etc.

(vi) Informative posters on various topics are prepared on various topics of occupational health hazards and circulated amongst industry as a part of awareness program.