

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:922
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2015
SAFETY OF MINE WORKERS
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Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has issued any instructions to various hazardous companies including the private coal companies regarding the safety of workers including workers in mines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has developed any mechanism for ensuring the safety of workers in such hazardous factories/industries/mines; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b): Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) issues guidelines from time to time, in the forms of various technical/Legislative/Administrative circulars and instructions, to the mining industry for ensuring practices of safer mining operation at mines. During 2014, DGMS had issued 21 circulars to the mine management and 2 instructions to the inspecting officers.
- (c) & (d): The Factories Act, 1948 is comprehensive legislation on safety, health and welfare administered by the Central government. The respective State Governments frame their State Factories Rules and enforce the Act and Rules through their State Factories Inspectors. In addition, the following mechanisms have been taken by the Government to maintain safety of mining workers:
 - (i) To promote and propagate safety awareness in mines, National Safety Awards (Mines), National Conference on Safety in Mines is organized by DGMS. The recommendations of National Conference on Safety in Mines go a long way in enhancing safety of mine workers.
 - (ii) Workers participation and sensitization in matters of safety are ensured through training in safety and by initiatives like celebration of safety week and safety campaigns, etc.
 - (iii) Safety training programmes are organized among Managers and Supervisors for improving safety standards in mines.
 - (iv) Risk Assessment Techniques are being introduced aimed at elimination of risks and to ensure safety of workmen.
 - (v) Standard operating procedures are established to avoid unsafe practices in mines.
 - (vi) A special safety awareness campaign has been launched to increase awareness of mine workers. i.e., 'Safety is My Responsibility' and steps have been taken to propagate the same.