

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5044  
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2015  
DEVELOPMENT OF COAL MINES  
Patle Smt. Kamla Devi

**Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal for development and augmenting the production for the coal mines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any assessment regarding the safety and security of the mine workers and accidents in coal mines;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to avoid the accidents in mines and ensuring the safety and security of workers?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL, POWER AND NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY  
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (b): An exercise has been carried out by Coal India Limited (CIL) and an action plan has been drawn for enhancing the production level to One Billion Tonne by the year 2019-20 from the current level of about 494 million tonne.

(c) & (d): Risk Assessment of all mines of CIL has been conducted for identification of all types of mining hazards that have potential to mine accidents and Risk Assessment based Safety Management Plans (SMP) have been prepared for all mines of CIL. The control measures recommended in the SMPs are under implementation.

(e): 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.

Apart from compliance of the statutory provisions as laid down in the Mines Act, 1952, the Coal Mine Regulations- 1957 and Byelaws & Standing Order framed there under, Government and Coal Companies have taken several remedial measures to prevent fatalities and to improve the standard of safety. These are as under:

- i) Internal Safety Organizations of Coal Companies regularly visit the mines for assessing the safety status and advise the management for corrective steps required if any.
- ii) Coal Companies also conduct Safety audits through engaging experts in mine safety and take appropriate corrective measures for improving safety in mines.
- iii) Standard operating procedures are established to avoid unsafe practices in mines.
- iv) 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.
- v) Risk Assessment Techniques are introduced which aim to eliminate, control and manage the risks in mines.
- vi) Safety training programmes are organized among Managers and Supervisors for improving safety standards in mines.
- vii) Other safety measures initiated recently:

# Special training programme for safety officers and other key mining official directly engaged in ensuing safety at mines by SIMTARS, Australia accredited trainers.

# Several R&D projects on safety have also been initiated.

# Spreading knowledge and coal mine safety information through publication of quarterly safety bulleting.

viii) 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 this to each miner.

ix) To promote and propagate safety awareness in mines, National Safety Awards (Mines) and National Conference on Safety in Mines are organized by Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS). The recommendations of National Conference on Safety in Mines are being implemented to enhance safety of mine workers.

x) Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines under the Chairmanship of Minister of Coal periodically reviews the status of safety in coal mines in the country and issues are addressed for ensuring safety of persons deployed in Coal Mines.