

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5459
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2015
VIOLATION OF MINES SAFETY NORMS
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Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) issues violation letters for violation of mines safety norms;
- (b) if so, the number of violation letters issued during the last three years along with the objective of issuing such letters;
- (c) the difference between violation letters and prohibitory notice/orders in respect of mine safety norms along with the duration of time in which these letters are issued;
- (d) whether corrupt practices are adopted to issue such letters; and
- (e) the reaction of the Government thereto and the corrective steps taken in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes, madam. Under Constitution of India, safety, welfare and health of workers employed in mines are the concern of the Central Government (Entry 55-Union List-Article 246). The objective is regulated by the Mines Act, 1952 and the Rules and Regulations framed there under. These are administered by the Directorate- General of Mines Safety (DGMS), under the Union Ministry of Labour & Employment. Apart from administering the Mines Act and the subordinate legislation framed there under, DGMS also administers some other allied legislation, including the Indian Electricity Act.

Adequate provisions for safety and health of persons employed in mines are made in the Mines Act, 1952 and Rules, Regulation made thereunder. The Mine management is required to comply within such provisions in their mines. To see that the mine management carries out the mining operations in accordance with the legal provisions to ensure safety of mine workers. Officers of DGMS make periodic inspections of all types of mines, irrespective of ownership types of the mines. The compliances of such provisions are checked during the course of inspections and enquiries by officers of DGMS and suitable measures such as violation letters, issue of notices, prohibitory orders are issued to ensure compliance. DGMS after proper enquiry also launches prosecutions against the mine management who violate the provisions of Rules, Regulations framed under the Mines Act, 1952. Number of violations issued by DGMS during last three calendar years and current year is given below:

Number of violations issued by DGMS during 2012-2015

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015
No. of violations issued	29299	36776	39598	12743

As on 31.03.2015

(c): During inspection of mines, if inspecting officer observed any violation of legal provisions under Mines Act, 1952; the inspecting officer issues violation letter to the mine management indicating the contraventions of Rules and Regulations and give the mine management a stipulated time for rectification. In case the workings or the environment in the mine are found to be unsafe and dangerous, notices or prohibitory orders are immediately issued to the management to take necessary steps for improvement. Unless the conditions are improved for re-deployment of persons as observed through inspections, the orders are not vacated and persons are not allowed to be redeployed in such dangerous conditions.

(d) & (e): No corrupt practices are adopted for issuance of violation letters by DGMS.