

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:189

ANSWERED ON:21.07.2014

OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES .

Kumar Shri Shailesh (Bulo Mandal);Ram Mohan Naidu Shri Kinjarapu

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

- (a) whether a number of occupational diseases at workplaces/factories/mines including silk, cement and fertilizer factories 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-wise;
- (c) the details of the statutory provisions made for safety, health and welfare of workers employed in factories and mines in the country;
- (d) the mechanism put in place to monitor the implementation of statutory provisions effectively; and
- (e) the various steps taken by the Government to create health care awareness about occupational diseases amongst the workers/labourers working in factories/mines?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES, LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 189 FOR ANSWER ON 21.07.2014 REGARDING OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES ASKED BY SHRI SHAILESH KUMAR AND SHRI RAM MOHAN NAIDU KINJARAPU.

(a) & (b): As per the available information from Chief Inspectors of Factories and Chief Inspector of Mines, the total number of cases of occupational diseases reported State/Union Territory-wise in factories and mines registered under the Factories Act, 1948 and Mines Act, 1952 during the last three years are given at Annexure-I and Annexure-II respectively.

(c) & (d): Statutory provisions for safety, health and welfare of persons employed in mines are provided under the Mines Act, 1952 and rules and regulations, made thereunder namely the Coal Mines Regulations, 1957, the Metalliferous Mines Regulations, 1961 and the Oil Mines Regulations, 1984. The implementation of safety legislations in mines is monitored by the Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS). The following system is being adopted by DGMS to ensure compliance of the safety, health and welfare provisions:-

- (i) Inspections of the mines and inquiries into the accidents;
- (ii) Issue of Improvement Notices and Prohibitory Orders;
- (iii) Suspension or stoppage of work, withdrawal of permission; and
- (iv) Prosecutions against the persons found responsible for violations.

The provisions for the safety, health and welfare of workers employed in factories are provided under the Factories Act, 1948 and Rules framed thereunder. The Act is enacted by the Central Government. However it is implemented by the State Governments in respective states through Chief Inspectors of Factories.

(e): The Ministry of Labour & Employment declared the National Policy on Safety, Health and Environment at Workplace on 20th February, 2009. The purpose of this National Policy is to establish a preventive safety and health culture in the country through elimination of the incidents of work related injuries, diseases, fatalities and disasters and to enhance the well-being of employees in all the sectors of economic activity in the country. The following steps are taken by the Government to create health care awareness amongst the workers/labourers:

- (i) In order to increase the awareness about safety and health issues amongst the mine workers, safety week/fortnight, rescue and first-aid competitions are organized in the mines every year.
- (ii) Safety and health training programmes are organized among Managers and Supervisors for improving safety and health standards in mines and factories.

(iii) National Safety Awards are granted to mine workers and Prime Ministers' Safety Awards are granted to the factories workers every year.

(iv) For strengthening preventive and promotive health services including occupational health services under ESI Medical Scheme, Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has taken several steps which are as under:-

(a) Action plan has been drawn for prevention and occupational diseases.

(b) Health checks up camps are being organized at work places for identification of occupational diseases amongst ESI Workers.

(c) Five Occupational diseases centers have been set up by ESIC in Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Indore and Mumbai.