

Title: Need to take preventive health and environmental measures to check dust and silicon pollution related health hazards among the workers of stone and granite industries.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (BIRBHUM): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise a very important issue of urgent public importance regarding the health and safety situation of thousands of workers engaged in mining and crushing units of black stones and granites in various parts of the country.

On the one hand, the loss of lives and the number of people with bodily damages are on the rise due to rising incidence of accidents in the mines and crushing units due to poor safety measures both in the mines and crushing units. On the other side, due to crushing of granites and black stones and in many other similar minerals, various dust and silicon particles are produced, which causes environmental pollution and health problems to the workers and neighbouring dwellers. Usually, it causes various chronic respiratory diseases including tuberculosis, chronic asthmatic bronchitis, pneumoconiosis and silicosis. All these are very dangerous types of respiratory diseases.

The Government should take appropriate measures to control and ensure mine safety and also take environmental pollution control measures so that these problems can be tackled with great importance.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav. You are a senior Member. Your matter is not a matter of national importance.