

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2076
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.12.2019**

ACCIDENTS AND LOSS OF LIFE IN MINES

2076. SHRI D.M. KATHIR ANAND:

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

- (a) the reasons for the recent mine accidents in Angul district of Odisha and failure of safety mechanism against mine accidents;**
- (b) whether it is true that the number of accidents and loss of life in mines in the country are higher as compared to that of mines in foreign countries and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) the details regarding action being taken to augment safety and efficiency of mines in the country?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

(a): The details of recent mine accident in Angul district of Odisha and reason thereof are as under:

Date of accident	Mine Name	Owner	Reason
14-03-2019	BALRAM OCP	Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	While a motor Grader was being operated at a workshop of opencast coal mine, its operator fell down from the operator cabin and run over by the first rear wheel of the same motor grader, thereby inflicting serious bodily injuries to him, which later on proved fatal.

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28-05-2019	BALRAM OCP	Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	A security guard was run over by dumper in the opencast mine.
20-06-2019	BHUBANE SWARI OPENCAS T PROJECT	Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	While a contractor worker climbed upon the live 230 volts tubular lighting pole for checking the connections, he received electric shock and got electrocuted.
23-07-2019	BHARATP UR PROJECT	Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	High and loose dumped overburden retained against the thin in-situ barrier (Parting) having cracks and fire etc., failed suddenly in which few persons were buried underneath and died.
31-08-2019	BALARAM OCP	Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd	A person was sitting in a quarry of opencast mine, who was run-over by the grader.

(b): The data related to accidents in other countries are not maintained by the Ministry of Labour & Employment. However, the trend of accidents and resultant casualties in mines during 2001 to 2018 has declined from 109 to 29 and 141 to 33 respectively in our Country.

(c): The following steps are taken by Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) to augment safety and efficiency of mines in the country:

(1) Inspection of mines by officers of DGMS to assess the safety parameters are conducted and following measures are taken :

- Pointing out contraventions**
- Withdrawal of permission**
- Issue of improvement notices**
- Prohibition of employment**
- Informal stoppages**
- Prosecution in the court of law**

(2) To maintain the safety of labourers working under great risk conditions in coal mines the following steps are also taken by the Government:

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

- (ii) Workers participation and sensitization in matters of safety are ensured through training in safety and by initiatives like observance of safety week and safety campaigns, etc.**
- (iii) Safety training programmes are organized among Managers and Supervisors for improving safety standards in mines.**
- (iv) Introduction of Risk Assessment Techniques and preparation of safety management plan aimed at elimination of risks and to ensure safety of workmen.**
- (v) Introduction of standard operating procedures to avoid unsafe practices in mines.**
- (vi) Time to time, DGMS Circulars are issued as guidelines for safe operations in identified thrust areas.**
