

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2639
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2006
ILO CONVENTION 176
Karunakaran Shri P.

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

- (a) whether the Government has adopted the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Convention 176 in 1995 with regard to safety in Mines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) to ensure safety in Mines?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES)

(a): The Government had voted in favour during the adoption of International Labour Organisation Convention 176 with regard to Safety and Health in mines.

(b): Provisions of many of the articles under the Convention have already been included in the existing statute with regard to Safety and Health in mines. With regard to the rights and duties of workers and their representatives under article 14, provisions have already been made in the Mines Act, 1952 to constitute Safety Committee and appoint Workman's Inspector with the rights and duties of the workers representatives in the management of Safety and Health in the mines. The provisions under different articles have already been incorporated in the Mines Act, 1952 and the rules and regulations made thereunder to comply with the requirements of Safety and Health in mines as prescribed in the articles 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15 & 16 of the International Labour Organisation Convention 176.

(c): A few of the provisions like extending the scope of application of the safety and health statute, introduction of the concept of risk assessment etc. have not been adopted so far in totality because of the following reasons:-

The scope of the Convention, if ratified, extends the purview of the Mines Act, 1952 to many new areas that are presently excluded. With the existing strength of enforcement machinery, it may not be possible to extend the jurisdiction of Directorate General of Mines Safety further to include the new areas as suggested in the convention.

(d): To ensure safety in mines detailed provisions as precautionary measures have already been laid down in the Mines Act, 1952 and the rules and regulations framed thereunder. It is the responsibility of the mine management to comply with the mine safety provisions.