

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1170
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2006
SAFETY RULES IN COAL MINES
Agarwal Shri Dharendra;Mahato Shri Sunil Kumar

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether safety rules are not being followed properly in Coal Mines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government conducts any investigation and inspection in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether any officer has been held responsible for not adhering to the safety rules properly;
- (f) if so, the details thereof during the last three years including the action taken against the erring officials; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

(a) & (b): As per information received from Ministry of Labour & Employment, the Mines Act, 1952 and the Rules & Regulations framed thereunder prescribes safe work procedures in the mines. The Mine management is required to comply with these provisions while working in the mine. Officers of Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) under Ministry of Labour and Employment carry out regular inspections of the mines. On detection of urgent and immediate danger in mines, DGMS issues improvement notice and also issues prohibitory order under the Mines Act, 1952. It is imperative on the part of mine management to rectify the violations pointed out during the inspection by DGMS officers.

(c)&(d): The safety provisions are prescribed by the Mines Act, 1952 and Rules and Regulations framed thereunder. As per Section 18 of the Mines Act, the Owner, Agent and Manager are each responsible for making financial and other provisions and for taking such other steps as may be necessary for compliance with the provisions of Act & Rules and Regulations framed thereunder. Officers of DGMS under the Ministry of Labour and Employment oversee compliance by periodical inspections of Mines. The officers also carry out investigation into all fatal accidents and serious complaints. The details of inspections for the last three years and enquiry made are given as under:

Year No. of Inspections No. of Enquiries

2003	5574	966
2004	5214	834
2005	5247	933

(e): Yes, Sir.

(f) & (g): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.