

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINES  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2190**  
ANSWERED ON 15.03.2021  
**DEATHS IN MICA MINES**

2190 SHRI BINOY VISWAM:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of workers who died while working in mica mines across the country since 2017 and whether any of these were children;
- (b) the details of the compensation paid to the family of these victims;
- (c) whether the Ministry has taken note of the large number of child labourers who work in these mines, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of the action taken against the mines engaged in child labour and the corporations using mica from these mines; and
- (e) the safety mechanisms which exists currently to improve the working conditions in these mica mines?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF MINES, COAL AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS  
(SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)

(a): As per the information furnished by Ministry of Labour & Employment, no fatal accident (death) took place in mica mines across the country since 2017.

(b): Does not arise in view of reply to part (a) above.

(c): As per the information provided by Ministry of Labour & Employment, no incidence of employment of child labourers by mica mine owners at these mines has come to the notice of the Government.

(d): Does not arise in view of reply to part (c) above.

(e): The provisions of the Mines Act, 1952 and the Rules and Regulations framed thereunder are implemented to improve the working conditions in these mica mines. Further, following steps are taken for safety of mine workers:

(i) To promote and propagate safety awareness in mines, National Safety Awards (Mines), National Conference on Safety in Mines are organized by DGMS. 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.

(ii) Safety training programmes are organised among managers and supervisors for improving safety standards in mines.

(iii) Introduction of Risk Assessment Techniques and preparation of safety management plan aimed at elimination of risks and to ensure safety of workmen.

(iv) Introduction of standard operating procedures to avoid unsafe practices in mines.

(v) DGMS issues circulars as guidelines for safe operations in identified thrust areas from time to time.

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