

No. 22022/01/2014-CRC-II
Government of India
Ministry of Coal

New Delhi, ..^{SK}.....April, 2016

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject : Minutes of the 40th meeting of Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines held on 22.2.2016 at New Delhi.

Undersigned is directed to forward a copy of Minutes of the 40th meeting of the Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines held on 22.2.2016 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Coal in New Delhi for information /necessary action. Copy of the above minutes has also been put on the website of this Ministry i.e. <http://coal.nic.in>.

Encl. As above.


5/4/16
(A.K. Mandal)

Under Secretary to Govt. of India

To:

All the members of the Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines (As per distribution list):

Copy to:

1. OSD to Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C) for (Coal)
2. PSO to Secretary (Coal)
3. PPS to Special Secretary (Coal)
4. PS to Adviser (Projects)
5. PS to Director (Technical)

Copy also to:

- ✓ 1. Technical Director, NIC, Ministry of Coal with the request to put the minutes of the 40th meeting of the Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines on the website of this Ministry.

Minutes of the 40th Meeting of the Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Coal held on 22nd February, 2016

The 40th meeting of the Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines was held on 22nd February, 2016 in New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C) Power, Coal & Renewable Energy.

The List of participants attached as **Annexure**.

1. Before the proceedings of the meeting started, Chairman and members paid homage to those who laid down their lives in line of duty in Coal Mining Industry since the last meeting of the Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines.
2. Welcoming the members of the Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines, Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C) Coal emphasized on the need for Root Cause analysis of all fatal accidents to avert recurrence. In the context, he advised DGMS to conduct in-depth study for analysing the root causes of all fatal accidents that took place since the last meeting of the Standing Committee on safety in coal mines. Coal companies should work out specific action plans in consultation with DGMS to prevent recurrence of such accidents.
3. Confirmation of the minutes of 39th Meeting: The minutes of the 39th Meeting of the Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines held on 13th March, 2015 were as confirmed unanimously. In this context, the Advisor (Projects), MOC informed that queries received from Shri S Q Zama, Member, Rep. INTUC had been replied.
4. Advisor (Projects), MOC then appraised the house of progress made in different parameters of safety by CIL since the last meeting of the Standing Committee on safety in coal mines as per the road map set by MoS (IC) Coal.
5. **Minister appreciated the efforts being made for improving safety standard in mines and advised all Coal companies to make thorough assessment of the requirement of the safety items and to formulate time bound action plan for procurement in regards to achieving "Zero Harm Potential (ZHP)".**
6. **Shri R P Singh, Rep. INTUC** highlighted the following:
 - He stressed on collective approach between management and trade union representatives for achieving better standard of safety.
 - He desired that adequate steps should be taken for ensuring the safety of contractor workers keeping in view the scale of deployment of contractual workforce.
7. **Dr. B K Rai, Rep. BMS** highlighted the following:
 - He desired to know the progress made in enhancing availability of medical facilities for employees of coal companies.

- He pointed out that doctors of CIL should be facilitated properly to enable their retention in CIL. He further raised the problem of shortage of qualified doctors in CIL due to retirement. For redressal of the problem he opined that the retirement age of the specialist doctors may be enhanced upto 70 years in the light of decision take by Govt. of MP in this regard.
- ***Minister responded that matter needed to be examined in view of its ramification on other PSUs. He advised that private companies partnership may be sought through proper tendering process for the upgradation of existing medical facilities in subsidiaries of CIL.***
- In this regard, Dr. Rai highlighted the problems being faced by SECL employees after tie-up with M/s Apollo Hospital, Bilaspur whereas the Central Hospitals being operated by other subsidiaries of CIL were running smoothly.
- In this context, Director (P&IR), CIL appraised the house that a study had been conducted by engaging AIIMS, New Delhi for assessment of existing health care system in CIL with an objective of system improvement. AIIMS, New Delhi has already submitted an interim report in this regard.

(Action : Chairman CIL/CMD's All Coal Companies)

8. ***Shri Nathulal Pandey, Rep. HMS*** highlighted the following issues:

- Medical facilities at coal companies should be improved in order to prevent the rising trend of cases of diabetes and blood pressure among coal mines employees. He also pointed out that renal failure cases were also increasing and needed facilities for it.
- Provision for proper bathrooms & toilet & quarters for mine employees as well as R.O (reverse osmosis) based water filter system should be made to ensure improvement in so that standard of health of the employees.
- ***Minister of Coal said that matter related to supply of R.O. based filtered water to employees of each mine should be examined and attended to.***

(Action : Chairman CIL/CMD's All Coal Companies)

- Effectiveness of the mist type water sprinkler system using mine water was doubtful. Water treatment arrangement should be provided in all the projects being provided with Mist type sprinkler.
- Safety of contractor workers also should be ensured.
- Ambulance helicopter – Citing the case of Anjan Hill Mine disaster, where 5 persons died on the way to Hospital at Bilaspur, he demanded that Ambulance helicopter should be procured for those subsidiaries where mines were located far flung areas. However, Advisor (Projects), MoC mentioned that under National Disaster Management Plan, there was provision for requisition of

subsidiaries could utilize such facilities instead of procuring Ambulance helicopter. Minister also agreed with this suggestions.

- Shortage of statutory manpower, Shri Pandey raised the issue that the CIL was likely to ramp-up the production to the tune of 1 BT in the year 2020 will require significant number of supervisory statutory manpower. In order to address the issue, Secretary (Coal) directed that ***experienced and competent departmental candidates should be given preference over external candidates while filling up the vacancies of statutory supervisory manpower. Further, appropriate training should be imparted to all departmental employees for enhancing their knowledge and skill.***

(Action : Chairman CIL/CMD's All Coal Companies)

9. **Shri S. Q. Zama, Rep. INTUC** highlighted the following:

- Shri S. Q. Zama, Rep. INTUC pointed that in between two meetings, 11 out of 31 fatalities that occurred in CIL were of contractual workers, which was quite high and there were more accidents in OC mines compared to UG mines.
- Safety budget had not been fully utilized in subsidiaries of CIL. He pointed out that underutilization of safety budget was due to L-1 culture. He desired that L-1 culture for the procurement of safety items should be discarded. ***Minister disagreed with this proposal and said that statutory legal provisions must be complied with in procurement process, particularly in case of public sectors undertaking for overall transparency in system.*** Acting DG, DGMS informed the house about the new approval policy, 2015 for easing out the procurement of safety items. Many safety items, which required DGMS approval earlier, were now put in the general list where standards / specification as per BIS norms were mentioned and DGMS approval was not required for those safety items.
- Shri Zama highlighted the issue of quality of the mining shoes being supplied to employees. He mentioned that local mining shoes were being stamped by the big companies having DGMS approval and supplied to employees.

- **Minister responded that lacunae in ensuring the quality of mine shoes, should be identified and proper testing of mining shoes should be done in order to maintain the requisite quality of mining shoes. He further mentioned that if any supplier / firm flouted the norms of the quality of mining shoes, those firms should be blacklisted from supplying of shoes in all PSU under the jurisdiction of ministries of Power, Coal & Renewable Energy. The list of such firms should be posted in the official web-site.**

(Action : Chairman CIL/CMD's All Coal Companies)

- Appropriate steps should be taken by CIL Management for retention of qualified doctors last their crunch affected the medical services in coal companies.

(Action : Chairman CIL)

- Regarding delay in issuance of exemption certificate to mining diploma holders, Shri Zama desired that DGMS should be more punctual in issuing exemption certificate to mining diploma holders so that they could appear in statutory examination being conducted by DGMS. **Secretary (coal) requested DGMS to take note of it and take appropriate action in this regard.**

(Action : DG, DGMS)

- He requested that the decisions taken in this forum should be delivered in the Tripartite Safety Committee (TSC) meeting at the subsidiaries and CIL level for their effective implementation.

(Action : Chairman CIL/CMD's All Coal Companies)

10. **Shri Surendra Kumar Pandey, Rep. BMS** highlighted the following issues:-

- Shortage of manpower – Posts of Mining Sirdars were not being filled up. In reply, CMD, WCL informed that 390 nos. of Mining Sirdars had been appointed by WCL in the last year.
- Statutory examination for Mining Sirdars had not been conducted in many regions of DGMS. He requested DGMS to conduct such statutory examinations at regular interval so that more candidates could attempt and become available for selection.
- **Minister said DGMS should find out a solution to this issue.**

(Action : DG, DGMS)

- Occupational health Services – Shri Pandey pointed out that ECG machines in some of the PME centres of CIL had broken down resulting in lack of this facilities.
- **In this context, Minister advised all coal companies to post hospital related data / records on their official web-sites within next 3 months. The status of medical equipment should be regularly updated along with their down time.**

(Action : Chairman CIL/CMD's All Coal Companies)

- Man Riding System – Strategy should be chalked out by CIL for providing Man Riding System in all UG mines in phased manner.
- **Minister directed CIL to identify all UG mines where such system needed to be provided and suggested three years' time schedule for providing such systems so that fatigue level of employees was reduced.**
- **Director (Technical), CIL said that CIL would identify all UG mines based on technical & economic viability in terms of reserves where such system would be provided within next 3 years' time frame as advised by Hon'ble Minister of Coal.**
- **Chairman, CIL assured that such system would be provided in all UG mines in a phased manner.**

(Action : Chairman CIL/CMD's All Coal Companies)

- **Minister directed CIL to prepare a clear roadmap for operation of UG mines through detailed study on their techno-economic viability with special reference to reorganization of UG dominated subsidiaries such as ECL, BCCL and WCL. He further suggested that mega UG projects could be envisaged to tackle problems related to UG mines including safety.**

(Action : Chairman CIL/CMD's All Coal Companies)

- Under-utilization of safety budget – Shri Pandey pointed out that safety budget was not realistic and funds allocated for safety had not been fully utilized due to lengthy procurement process.
- **Minister of Coal said that there was no problem with process per se but there were some lacunae in efforts of some of the coal companies, which should be removed at the earliest. He desired that the coal companies should take appropriate step for full utilization of safety budget.**

(Action : Chairman CIL/CMD, SCCL/CMD NLC/CMD's All Coal Companies)

11. **Shri C J Joseph, Rep. AITUC** highlighted the following:

- In course of augmentation of coal production to a level of 1 BT by 2019-20, diesel consumption would go up considerably. As a result, there would be increase in diesel particulate matter (DPM) in the ambient environment, which was far more polluting than coal dust and could play havoc with health of employees of OC mines. No study has been conducted so far to find out adverse health effect due to more use of diesel in OC mines. He desired that a norm should be fixed by DGMS based on a proper study. **Minister directed DGMS & Coal companies for expeditious action on the same.**

(Action : DG, DGMS/CMD's All Coal Companies)

- On Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus(SCBA) for rescue, Shri Joseph expressed his dissatisfaction over procurement of negative pressure type SCBA in some of the subsidiaries of CIL whereas superior / positive pressure type SCBA was available in the market. He desired that human life should not be compromised at any cost and positive pressure type SCBA should be procured for rescue operation.
- ***In this context, Director (Technical), CIL clarified that both positive or negative pressure type SCBA were suitable for purpose and both the types had the DGMS approval.***
- Amendment of the Mine Vocational Training Rules(MVTR), 1966: was imperative since technical requirements had changed. But no amendment of MVTR-1966 had been made. He requested DGMS to amend the said Rules. DGMS informed the house the MVTR-1966 was under process of amendment.

(Action : DG, DGMS)

- Expenditure on R&D on conservation of coal & mine safety head in coal sector was abysmally low, which should be 1% of PAT. He desired that more R&D projects should be undertaken on coal conservation and mine safety related issue.

(Action : Chairman CIL/CMD's All Coal Companies)

- Coal companies should take appropriate action for conservation of coal reserves, it was not being given due attention.

(Action : Chairman CIL/CMD's All Coal Companies)

12. **Shri Manas Mukherjee, Rep. CITU** highlighted the following issues:-

- Contractor worker's safety – Appropriate action should be taken for ensuring contractor workers safety.
- Criteria for viable & non-viable UG mines – Criteria for viable & non-viable UG mines should be clearly defined on basis of technical and economic consideration. The role of State Govt. should be considered in this context.
- No ATR of private coal companies: No ATR of private coal companies had been provided in the Agenda Notes.
- Advisor (Projects), MoC responded that one private Coal mine had been inspected by the sub-committee and inspection report had been incorporated in the Agenda Note.
- Mandatory one-week training – The mandatory one-week training must be imparted to all employees irrespective of their class or grade.

(Action : Chairman CIL/CMD's All Coal Companies)

- Cases of pneumoconiosis were still being treated as tuberculosis in spite of assurance during the previous meeting that pneumoconiosis detection kit would be installed in all the hospitals within one year time. **Minister directed coal companies for expeditious action on the same.**

(Action : Chairman CIL/CMD's All Coal Companies)

13. While summing up the deliberation of the meeting, Hon'ble Minister of Coal emphasized that the safety of mine was non-negotiable. All coal companies should initiate concrete steps for achieving Zero Harm Potential in their mines. A team of young engineers in each company should be formed to make a thorough analysis of accidents and accident prone areas in consultation with all the stakeholders and to suggest innovative solutions. The objective of both Trade Union & Mine Management was one and the same as far as human life was concerned and there should be synergic approach towards finding optimal solution for better mine safety. He appreciated the proposal of using Ambulance Helicopter provided under the NDMP-2006 in case of mine disaster for fast evacuation of the injured persons. He desired that the contractor worker's safety should be ensured through imparting proper training, reducing their fatigue level and providing proper PPE. He suggested that apart from productivity, all employees should be effectively sensitized by trade union representatives in order to enhance the overall safety and productivity. Finally, he requested all concerned to work together for ensuring safety and conservation of human life.

(Action : Chairman CIL/CMD's All Coal Companies)

14. The meeting ended with Vote of thanks to the Chair.

Annexure

**List of the participants of the 40th meeting of Standing Committee on Safety in Coal
Mines held on 22.02.2016 in New Delhi.**

Sl. No. NAME

DESIGNATION

MINISTRY OF COAL

1.	Minister of State (I/C) for Coal	- Chairman
2.	Shri Anil Swarup	Secretary
3.	Shri A.K. Dubey	Special Secretary
4.	Shri R.P Gupta	Joint Secretary
5.	Shri D.N. Prasad	Adviser (Projects)
6.	Shri Peeyush Kumar	Director (Technical)
7.	Shri Satyajeet Ojha	Sr. Manager (Mining), CIL/MOC
8.	Shri Ashish Kumar	Sr. Manager, CIL/MOC

TRADE UNION REPRESENTATIVES

9.	Shri Rajendra Prasad Singh	President, (INTUC)
10.	Shri S.Q. Zama, Ex. MLC	Secretary General. INMF (INTUC)
11.	Dr. B.K. Rai	Vice President, BMS,
12.	Shri Surender Kumar Pandey	National President, ABKMS
13.	Shri Manas Kumar Mukherjee	Secretary, AICWF (CITU)
14.	Shri R.B. Upadhyay	Council Member, IMMA
16.	Shri V. P. Singh	President, CMOAI
17.	Shri Nathulal Pandey	President, HKMS
14.	Com. C.J. Joseph	Secretary (IMWF)
15.	Shri R.K. Tewary	Working Committee Member, AIUTUC

MINISTRY OF LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT, DGMS

18.	Shri P. Ranganatheeswar	DDG (HQ), DGMS, Dhanbad
19.	Shri Devender Singh	Economic Adviser, MoLE

COAL INDIA LIMITED

20.	Shri S Bhattacharya	Chairman CIL
21.	Shri N. Sridhar	Chairman, SCCL
22.	Shri Sarat Kumar Acharya	Chairman, NLC
43.	Shri Shekhar Saran	CMD, CMPDIL
24.	Shri Anil K. Jha	CMD, MCL
25.	Shri Rajiv R. Mishra	CMD, WCL
26.	Shri T.K. Nag	CMD, NCL
27.	Shri Om Prakash	CMD, SECL
28.	Shri Gopal Singh	CMD, CCL
29.	Shri C.K. Dey	CMD, ECL
30.	Shri N. Kumar	Director (T), CIL & CMD BCCL
31.	Shri R.Mohan Das	Director (P), CIL
32.	Shri B.K. Mishra	Director (T), WCL
33.	Shri A.K. Tiwari	Director (T), MCL

34. Shri Subir Das Director (Mines), NLC
35. Shri A. Manohar Rao Director (SCCL)
36. Shri S.P. Datta Mazumdar TS to Chairman, CIL
37. Shri C.B. Sood E.D. (S&R), CIL
38. Shri B. Pandey GM(Welfare), CIL
39. Shri Mahabir Mukhopadhyaya Chief Manager, CIL
40. Shri J.P. Kumar NLC
41. Shri Sanjay Kumar Singh TATA Steel
42. Shri K.L. Srinivasaran G.M., SAIL
43. Shri T.K. Thakur, S.E.(Mining), DVC Bermo Mine
