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Government of India /भारत सरकार

Ministry of Coal /कोयला मंत्रालय

MPS Section /एम.पी.एस अनुभाग

Room No. 622-A, Shastri Bhawan,
New Delhi. Dated 29th January 2025

To,

Members of the Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines (As per list)

Subject: Minutes of the 49th Meeting of the Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Coal and Mines held on 17.12.2024 in New Delhi.

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith the minutes of the 49th meeting of the Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines held on 17th December, 2024 in New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Coal and Mines, for kind information and further necessary action. The Action Taken Report on the various decisions taken in the meeting may be furnished to this Ministry at socrc.moc@nic.in and hitlar.singh85@nic.in, at the earliest.

Encl: As above.

(Hitlar Singh)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

Tel: 011-23382269

Email: hitlar.singh85@nic.in

Copy to:

1. PS to Hon'ble Minister of Coal and Mines.
2. PS to Hon'ble MoS for Coal and Mines.
3. PSO to Secretary (Coal)
4. PPS to Additional Secretary (Coal)
5. PS to Project Adviser, Ministry of Coal
6. OSD, Ministry of Coal
7. PS to Director (Technical), Ministry of Coal
8. Sr. TD/NIC - with request to put this minutes on the website of MoC.

Distribution list:

1. The Chairman, Coal India Ltd., Coal Bhawan, Kolkata.
2. The CMD, NLCIL, Neyveli, Tamil Nadu.
3. The CMD, Singareni Collieries Company Ltd., Kothagudem, Telangana.
4. Director (Personnel & IR), CIL
5. Director (Technical), CIL
6. CMDs of BCCL/ECL/CCL/SECL/NCL/MCL/WCL and CMPDI

List of union members:

7. Shri K Lakshma Reddy, Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS)
8. Shri Narayan Rao Saratakar, Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS)
9. Shri Siddharth Goutam, Hind Mazdoor Sabha (HMS)
10. Shri C J Joseph, All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC)
11. Shri Manas Kumar Mukherjee, Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU)
12. Shri R K Sharma, Indian Mines Managers' Association (IMMA)
13. Shri Dinanath Singh, Coal Mines Officers' Association of India (CMOAI)

Ministry of Labour & Employment:

14. Shri Ujjwal Tah, Director General & CIM, DGMS
15. Shri Ajoy Sharma, Joint Secretary, MoL&E

Private/Captive and Commercial Coal Companies:

16. CMD, TGGENCO
17. CMD, Sasan Power Ltd
18. CMD, Panjab State Power Corporation Limited
19. Chairman, Damodar Valley Corporation
20. CMD, Jaiprakash Power Ventures Ltd.
21. CMD, The Durgapur Projects Ltd
22. CMD, UltraTech Cement Limited.
23. CMD, Sunflag Iron & Steel Co. Ltd.
24. Chairman, B. S. Ispat Ltd.
25. CMD, Chhattisgarh State Electricity Board
26. Chairman, OCPL
27. Chairman, Auro Infra Pvt. Ltd
28. Chairman, Tata Steel Limited
29. CEO, CESC
30. Director (Project), RRVUNL
31. Director, JMS Pvt Ltd.
32. Director (Project & Technical), NALCO
33. Director (Fuel), NTPC Limited
34. Director (Technical), THDC India Limited
35. Director (Mining), WBPDC
36. Associate Vice President, Jindal Steel & Power Ltd.
37. Associate Vice President, Jindal Power Ltd.

Minutes of the 49th Meeting of the Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Coal and Mines held on 17.12.2024 in New Delhi.

The 49th meeting of the Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines was held under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Minister of Coal and Mines on 17.12.2024 in New Delhi. List of participants is enclosed as **Annexure**.

2. The meeting started with National Anthem, followed by floral tribute to pay homage to those employees who sacrificed their lives in the service of the Nation since the last meeting (48th) of the Standing Committee on safety in coal mines and observance of one minute silence in the memory of the departed soul.

3. Additional Secretary (Coal), in the opening remarks, welcomed all members and other participants to the 49th meeting of Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines. It was mentioned that to ensure the highest safety standards in the coal sector, it is essential to maintain robust safety protocols and continuously set higher benchmarks for best safety practices. With the rapid transformation in coal production, which reached 997 million tonnes in 2023-24 (including contributions from CIL, SCCL, and captive mines), the need for a safe working environment is paramount. Responsible mining practices, coupled with technological advancements, should be prioritized to foster safety and sustainability.

4. It was further highlighted that the National Coal Mines Safety Report (NCMSR) portal would be pivotal in streamlining safety processes. This will facilitate the analysis of near real-time data, statistical evaluations, mitigation measures, and quick responses. The portal also supports safety audits, continuous monitoring, and the regular application of in-depth safety protocols.

5. Subsequently, minutes of the 48th meeting of the Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines held on 12.12.2022 at New Delhi was confirmed unanimously by members. Thereafter, Project Advisor, Ministry of Coal made a brief presentation highlighting the accident statistics and performance on Mine Safety by various coal companies since the last meeting, action taken against suggestions and recommendations of the 48th Standing Committee meeting.

6. The Hon'ble Minister of Coal and Mines launched the National Coal Mines Safety Report (NCMSR) portal, developed to ensure near real-time reporting of coal mine accidents. The portal has been developed under the guidance of the High-Level Expert Committee on Safety in Coal Mines with a new module on Safety Audit.

7. Subsequently, Hon'ble Minister asked Trade Union members of Standing Committee to give their views and suggestions. The points/issues highlighted by the members of the Standing Committee are as under:

7.1. Frequency of Conducting Standing Committee Meetings:

7.1.1. Shri K Lakshma Reddy, representative of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) observed that the meeting is being held after 2 years. Given the importance of safety, he suggested that meetings should be held regularly as this forum serves

as the highest-level safety monitoring platform.

7.1.2. Shri C J Joseph, representative of All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC) also highlighted that the meeting was held after a gap of 2 years. Such long intervals undermine the commitment to safety and must be avoided in the future and meetings should be held regularly as per schedule.

7.1.3. Shri Manas Kumar Mukherjee, representative of Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) suggested that all Tripartite Safety Committee meetings should be held at least twice a year.

7.2. **Distribution of Agenda Note and Action Taken Report:**

7.2.1. Shri K Lakshma Reddy, representative of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) suggested that Agenda Note and Action Taken Report on the decisions/suggestions of the last meeting should be submitted at least one week prior to the meeting. Action Taken Report should be provided by all coal companies including captive, commercial and private coal companies.

7.2.2. Shri Manas Kumar Mukherjee, representative of Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) suggested that the Agenda Note along with the Action Taken Report on the decisions/suggestions of the last meeting should be shared at least 10 days prior to the meeting to allow sufficient time for cross-checking reports and gathering feedback from the unit level.

7.2.3. Shri Siddharth Goutam, representative of Hind Mazdoor Sabha (HMS) highlighted that worker safety is the highest priority, and this committee has been constituted specifically to address safety issues. He also suggested that the Agenda Note and Action Taken Report on the decisions/suggestions of the last meeting should be shared well in advance to ensure adequate preparation and discussion during the meeting.

7.3. **"Zero Tolerance, Zero Accidents" Principle:**

7.3.1. Shri K Lakshma Reddy, representative of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) highlighted that 80 fatal accidents were reported since the last (48th) meeting. This emphasizes the need for identifying and addressing the gaps, even in an era of technological advancements. He further suggested that:

- a. The principle of "Zero Tolerance, Zero Accidents" must be strictly upheld.
- b. Timely actions should be taken against individuals found responsible for negligence.
- c. Achieving "Zero Accidents" in all coal mines should remain the top priority.
- d. Safety and well-being of all workers should be ensured.

7.3.2. Shri Narayan Rao Sarathkar, representative of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) suggested that mine officials shall strictly ensure compliance with Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), and Safety Management Plans (SMPs) to achieve zero harm in coal mines.

7.4. Worker Safety:

7.4.1. Shri Manas Kumar Mukherjee, representative of Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) highlighted that:

- a. Fatality rate per 3 lakh employed persons is on the rise, which requires immediate attention.
- b. Despite advanced mechanization, fatalities and serious injuries caused by roof falls and side falls have increased in SCCL mines.
- c. Major accident happened at the Gangaramchak and Gangaramchak-Bhadulia (G&GB) opencast coal mine of WBPDCCL on 07.10.2024 highlights importance of worker safety.

7.4.2. Shri Dinanath Singh, representative of Coal Mines Officers' Association of India (CMOAI) highlighted that despite implementing various safety measures, accident statistics are on a rising trend. It is imperative to enforce more stringent safety norms to reverse this trend.

7.4.3. Shri K Lakshma Reddy, representative of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) mentioned that coal mining is inherently hazardous, and as the coal production targets increase annually, worker tension rises. He suggested that:

- a. Comprehensive short-term and long-term plans based on scientific studies must be developed for worker safety.
- b. Additional compensation for fatalities may be increased from ₹15 lakhs to ₹50 lakhs to provide proper support to the affected families.
- c. Compensations should be standardized across all coal companies. In NLCIL, 3 employees who died in a fatal accident were not given the ₹15 lakh compensation. In SCCL, only ₹10 lakh was provided. Such inconsistencies may be corrected.

7.5. Online Systems related to CMPFO:

7.5.1. Shri K Lakshma Reddy, representative of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) highlighted that EPFO is functioning efficiently but the CMPFO's online function needs to be urgently addressed. He suggested that the online services of CMPF and CMPS should be corrected and made efficient similar to the EPFO. He further suggested that the pension scheme under CMPS is running at a loss and requires immediate restructuring to ensure its sustainability.

7.5.2. Shri Dinanath Singh, representative of Coal Mines Officers' Association of India (CMOAI) suggested that:

- a. A contribution of Rs.20/tonne of coal produced towards CMPS fund may be ensured.
- b. CMPFO records contain several errors, including inaccuracies in date of birth entries and other critical data. These errors must be rectified to facilitate the smooth processing of pensions and CMPF payments.

7.6. Notified Occupational Diseases and PME Status

7.6.1. Shri Narayan Rao Sarathkar, representative of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) highlighted that there is no proper data on notified occupational diseases and current practices are not aligned with ILO guidelines. He further suggested that PME be conducted at least 6 months before retirement to help identify common health issues.

7.6.2. Shri Siddharth Goutam, representative of Hind Mazdoor Sabha (HMS) suggested that current medical facilities are insufficient. First aid services are substandard, medicines are in short supply, and there is a severe shortage of medical and nursing staff. This compromises the overall health and well-being of workers.

7.6.3. Shri C J Joseph, representative of All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC) suggested that other notified occupational diseases, such as Noise-Induced Hearing Loss (NIHL) should be included under OS&H policies. Provisions as per the recommendations from the World Health Organization (WHO) regarding occupational diseases should be implemented.

7.6.4. Shri Manas Kumar Mukherjee, representative of Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) suggested that the quality of Initial Medical Examinations (IME) and Periodic Medical Examinations (PME) should be improved.

7.7. Safety in Opencast mining operation:

7.7.1. Shri K Lakshma Reddy, representative of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) highlighted that opencast mines under CIL lack proper fencing, posing significant hazards. Immediate measures must be taken to prevent unauthorized entry of persons and animals into these areas.

7.7.2. Shri C J Joseph, representative of All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC) suggested that fencing around the OC mine boundary is critical for safety and security.

7.7.3. Shri Dinanath Singh, representative of Coal Mines Officers' Association of India (CMOAI) suggested that boom barriers and proper fencing in opencast mines should be provided to enhance safety measures.

7.7.4. Shri Narayan Rao Sarathkar, representative of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) highlighted that the ergonomics of Heavy Earth Moving Machinery (HEMM) are poor. Operators experience stress, stiffness, slackness, and vibrations. Dozer operators, in particular, suffer from issues caused by bad seat designs, which may lead to long-term health problems.

7.7.5. Shri Manas Kumar Mukherjee, representative of Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) suggested that Heavy Earth Moving Machinery (HEMM) should be equipped with rear-view cameras to reduce accidents due to tippers and dumpers.

7.8. Contractual Employees Welfare:

7.8.1. Shri Narayan Rao Sarathkar, representative of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh

(BMS) highlighted that the living conditions of contractual workers are poor with overcrowded rooms leading to risks of contagious diseases and reduced work efficiency. He suggested arrangement of separate quarters for contractual workers.

7.8.2. Shri C J Joseph, representative of All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC) suggested that as per recommendations of the High-Power Committee, wages should be provided to all contractual and MDO employees.

7.8.3. Shri Manas Kumar Mukherjee representative of Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) suggested that proper medical facilities should be provided to all contractual employees to ensure proper healthcare access and biometric attendance systems must be implemented for all contractors and outsourced employees.

7.9. Research and Development (R&D) Projects

7.9.1. Shri C J Joseph, representative of All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC) suggested that Research and Development (R&D) spending of all coal companies should be increased, but robust monitoring mechanisms must be introduced to ensure proper utilization of allocated R&D funds.

7.9.2. Shri Manas Kumar Mukherjee, representative of Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) suggested that the introduction of paste-filling technology in mines should be prioritized, given the extensive R&D already conducted on this subject by CMPDI and other agencies.

7.10. Dust Suppression and Air Quality.

7.10.1. Shri Narayan Rao Sarathkar, representative of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) suggested that adequate numbers of Personal Dust Samplers (PDS) should be provided for dust sampling survey at underground mines.

7.10.2. Shri Manas Kumar Mukherjee representative of Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) said that the efficiency of dust management systems, including sprinklers and fog cannons, needs to be reassessed. Ground reports from Gevra, Kusmunda, and Dipka coal mines reveal discrepancies between actual conditions and documented records.

7.10.3. Shri Siddharth Goutam, representative of Hind Mazdoor Sabha (HMS) said that:

- a. Health of the workers are deteriorating due to prolonged exposure to high levels of air pollution due to dust, which is a critical concern and requires immediate action.
- b. In Jharkhand, where subsidiaries such as ECL, BCCL, and CCL operate, pollution levels are extremely high. Additionally, CMPDIL and DGMS (HQ) offices are located in the region. The combined impact of industrial operations and air pollution is causing significant environmental and health challenges.
- c. Lung diseases and respiratory illnesses are rapidly increasing among workers and the general public. As Jharkhand contributes coal to the nation,

CIL must take proactive measures to address safety and health concerns of the state population.

7.11. Vocational Training Centres:

7.11.1. Shri Manas Kumar Mukherjee, representative of Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) suggested that the vocational training centres should be modernised and upgraded, number of vocational training centres.

7.11.2. Shri Dinanath Singh, representative of Coal Mines Officers' Association of India (CMOAI) suggested that extensive work is needed to incorporate simulator-based training into the safety framework.

7.12. Other Suggestions:

7.12.1. **Quality of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** Shri Narayan Rao Sarathkar, representative of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) suggested that the quality of mining shoes may be improved, and ear muffs/other hearing protection devices should be provided where noise levels are high due to increasing machine deployment at mines.

7.12.2. **Super-Speciality Hospitals:** Shri Siddharth Goutam, representative of Hind Mazdoor Sabha (HMS) suggested construction of super-speciality hospitals as existing medical facilities are inadequate to address the growing healthcare needs of coal mine workers and their families. Each subsidiary company of CIL and SCCL may establish one super-speciality hospital to provide advanced medical care to employees and their families.

7.12.3. **Director (Safety) Post at CIL Board Level:** Shri Dinanath Singh, representative of Coal Mines Officers' Association of India (CMOAI) suggested that a new post of Director (Safety) may be created at the CIL Board level to improve mine safety standards.

7.12.4. **AI-Based Safety Initiatives:** Shri Dinanath Singh, representative of Coal Mines Officers' Association of India (CMOAI) suggested that artificial intelligence based safety initiatives should be introduced in coal mines.

7.12.5. **Enforcement of OS&H Code-2020:** Shri Dinanath Singh, representative of Coal Mines Officers' Association of India (CMOAI) suggested that OS&H Code 2020, although passed has not yet been enforced properly and should be implemented at all coal mines.

7.12.6. **National Safety Conference Recommendations:** Shri C J Joseph, representative of All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC) suggested that recommendations of national safety conferences should be implemented to improve safety standards and practices.

7.12.7. **Amendment of MVTR-1966:** Shri C J Joseph, representative of All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC) suggested that the Mines Vocational Training Rules (MVTR) 1966 should be amended to recognize advancements in mining technologies and align with current industry standards and future needs.

7.12.8. Revision of MVTC Rules: Shri C J Joseph, representative of All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC) also said that while the CMR has been revised, the Mines Vocational Training Centre (MVTC) rules remain outdated and should be revised accordingly.

7.12.9. Amendment of Mines Rescue Rules-1985: Shri C J Joseph, representative of All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC) suggested that Mines Rescue Rules 1985 should be amended to include rescue provisions for opencast projects.

7.12.10. Manpower Shortage: Shri R K Sharma, representative of Indian Mines Managers' Association (IMMA) suggested that retired executives holding competency certificates may be hired as consultants/competent persons to fill the manpower shortage gap and maintain operational safety standards.

7.12.11. Illegal Coal Mining: Shri R K Sharma, representative of Indian Mines Managers' Association (IMMA) said that the current measures taken by coal companies to stop illegal mining are inadequate and proper scientific methods including modern technologies may be implemented.

7.12.12. Uniformity in Social Benefit Schemes: Shri R K Sharma, representative of Indian Mines Managers' Association (IMMA) said that social benefit schemes across all subsidiary companies of CIL may be made uniform to ensure fairness and equal benefits for all employees.

7.12.13. Jharia Master Plan and Rehabilitation: Shri Siddharth Goutam, representative of Hind Mazdoor Sabha (HMS) said that a thorough review of the Jharia Master Plan is urgently needed. The numerous potholes at BCCL mines and the unstable condition of houses necessitate immediate relocation of residents to ensure their safety and prevent loss of life.

7.12.14. Rajmahal Court of Inquiry Recommendations: Shri R K Sharma, representative of Indian Mines Managers' Association (IMMA) suggested that the recommendation of the Rajmahal Court of Inquiry may be implemented regarding the appointment of the senior-most mining executive of the mine as the mine manager.

8. Director General, DGMS highlighted the following:

8.1. Accidents and Dust Suppression Measures: DG, DGMS mentioned that while the overall trend of coal mine accidents is declining, there remains a gap between the current safety standards and expectations. Significant safety initiatives have been undertaken with a focus on implementing shelf regulations to further improve mine safety. He also highlighted the need for comprehensive measures to address the persistent dust issues in coal mines.

8.2. Safety of Contract Workers: He emphasized the importance of including contractor workers in safety committees to ensure their safety concerns are properly addressed. Additionally, welfare officers should be engaged to oversee their health and welfare needs, ensuring that the overall well-being of contract workers is prioritized.

8.3. UG Coal Mining Expertise: To improve underground coal mining operations, he suggested the need for a robust strategy to develop and retain skilled personnel with expertise in underground coal mining. This is essential for increasing production from UG coal mines while maintaining safety standards.

8.4. Enforcement of OH&S Code 2020: He suggested enforcement of the Occupational Health & Safety (OH&S) Code 2020, which will replace the Mines Vocational Training Rules (MVTR) 1966. This updated code is expected to improve workplace safety by integrating better provisions for health and safety standards within the mining sector.

8.5. Collaborative Efforts and Digital Solutions: DG, DGMS emphasized the need for collaborative efforts between mine management, trade unions, and regulatory bodies to enhance safety standards. He also highlighted the role of digital solutions, such as online systems for work permissions, approvals, competency exams, and accident reporting, to streamline processes and improve operational efficiency. Additionally, he suggested addressing occupational health concerns and developing indigenous mining equipment to reduce reliance on imports.

9. **Chairman, CIL** highlighted the following:

9.1. Jharia Master Plan: BCCL and CIL are actively implementing measures under the Master Plan for Jharia Coalfields to address key challenges in the Jharia Coalfield.

9.2. Major Accident at G&GB mine of WBPDC: In the aftermath of the major accident happened at the Gangaramchak & Gangaramchak-Bhadulia (G&GB) opencast coal mine of WBPDC at the Birbhum district of West Bengal on 07.10.2024, CIL and ECL has extended assistance to WBPDC management, demonstrating the commitment to collaboration during the emergency.

9.3. International Mine Rescue Competition: Coal India Limited will host the prestigious International Mine Rescue Competition (IMRC) in the year 2028 at MRS, Nagpur, WCL.

9.4. Occupational Health Services: To prioritize employee PME and occupational health issues of the employees, CIL has deployed a dedicated doctor at CIL (HQ), Kolkata who will exclusively monitor the status of Initial and Periodic Medical Examinations (IME/PME) in all subsidiaries.

9.5. Contractor Employee Wage: CIL and its subsidiaries ensure fair wages by adhering to High-Powered Committee (HPC) wage standards for all contractual employees engaged in HOE and MDO patches.

9.6. Standard of Hospitals: He said that CIL hospitals, including the central hospitals of BCCL and CCL had provided exceptional services during the COVID-19 pandemic, showcasing the robust medical infrastructure and commitment to employee health as well as towards the community residing nearby.

10. **Secretary (Coal)** highlighted the following:

10.1. **Safety Standards:** The Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines, established in 1982, emphasizes that improving safety standards is a continuous endeavor and requires a paradigm shift in mindset. Secretary (Coal) also mentioned that safety should be treated as an ongoing journey, focusing on evolving standards and proactive measures to foster a culture of safety.

10.2. **Framework for Mine Safety Enhancement** The Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines provides a comprehensive framework for enhancing mine safety, formulating policies, and implementing initiatives to improve safety standards across all mines, aiming to ensure a safer working environment.

10.3. **Shared Responsibility in Safety:** Safety in coal mines is a shared responsibility, requiring equal participation from all stakeholders. Achieving safety goals necessitates collective efforts from employees, management, and regulatory bodies.

10.4. **Root Cause Analysis of Accidents:** The root cause analysis of recent fatal mine accidents indicates that non-compliance with Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and supervisory failures are major contributing factors, with human errors remaining the primary cause.

10.5. **Strengthening Preventive Measures:** The Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines recommends strengthening precautionary and preventive safety measures to reduce operational risks effectively, thereby minimizing the chances of accidents.

10.6. **Upgrading Training Ecosystem:** The training ecosystem should be upgraded by enhancing training simulators and implementing virtual reality-based programs to improve the preparedness and skills of mine workers.

10.7. **Corrective Training Systems:** A corrective training system is necessary to address gaps in safety practices, ensuring that all workers are well-versed in the latest safety protocols and procedures.

10.8. **Technological Interventions:** Adopting technological interventions, such as Integrated Command and Control Centers (ICCC) and modern mining technologies, is crucial for improving safety standards and operational efficiency.

10.9. **Prioritizing Employee Welfare:** Secretary (Coal) further emphasized the importance of prioritizing the safety, welfare, and health of employees in all mining operations to create a safer and healthier work environment.

10.10. **Ensuring Competent Manpower:** Secretary (Coal) also requested the Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) to conduct demand-based statutory examinations to ensure the availability of competent manpower in all mines.

11. In his address **the Hon'ble Minister of Coal and Mines** emphasized on the following:

11.1. **Timely Organization of Committee Meetings:** The Hon'ble Minister of Coal

and Mines emphasized the importance of organizing the Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines meetings every six months, ensuring regular feedback from all coal companies to guide actionable decisions.

11.2. Result-Oriented Action Taken Reports: The Hon'ble Minister of Coal and Mines highlighted that Action Taken Reports (ATR) of coal mine accidents should be result-oriented, focusing on effective issue resolution and achieving measurable outcomes.

11.3. Energy Security and Economic Development The Hon'ble Minister of Coal and Mines highlighted the commitment of Government of India to energy security, considering the growing power needs, economic progress, and the employment generated by the coal sector.

11.4. Prioritizing Employee Welfare and Safety: He highlighted the necessity of prioritizing the welfare, health, environmental sustainability, and safety of employees in the coal sector to safeguard their well-being.

11.5. Modernization of Mining Technology: The modernization of coal mining technology, especially with a focus on enhancing safety, is essential for sustainable development in the industry.

11.6. Commitment to Mine Safety: Honourable Minister, also emphasized that the initiatives and efforts in the coal sector should reflect a commitment to improving mine safety and achieving excellence.

12. Director (Technical), Ministry of Coal provided a vote of thanks, appreciating the contributions of all attendees and acknowledging their valuable input during the session.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

Annexure

List of the participants of 49th Meeting of the Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Coal and Mines held on 17.12.2024 in New Delhi.

S.No.	Name	Designation
Ministry of Coal:		
1	Shri G. Kishan Reddy	Hon'ble Minister of Coal and Mines
2	Shri Vikram Dev Dutt	Secretary
3	Smt. Vismita Tej	Additional Secretary
4	Sri S K Kassi	Joint Secretry
5	Shri Anandji Prasad	Project Adviser
6	Shri Sajeesh Kumar N.	Coal Controller
7	Mrs Santosh	DDG(Coal)
8	Shri Ramakant Singh	Executive Director
9	Shri Marapally Venkateshwarlu	Director
10	Shri Birendra Kumar Thakur	Director
11	Shri Ajitesh Kumar	Director
12	Shri Asheesh Kumar	OSD
13	Shri Hitlar Singh	Under Secretary
Trade Union Representatives:		
14	Shri K Lakshma Reddy	Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS)
15	Shri Narayan Rao Saratakar	Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS)
16	Shri Siddharth Goutam	Hind Mazdoor Sabha (HMS)
17	Shri CJ Joseph	All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC)
18	Shri Manas Kumar Mukherjee	Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU)
19	Shri R K Sharma	Indian Mines Managers' Association (IMMA)
20	Shri Dinanath Singh	Coal Mines Officers' Association of India (CMOAI)
Ministry of Labour & Employment:		
21	Shri Ujjwal Tah	Director General & CIM, DGMS
22	Shri Ajoy Sharma	Joint Secretary, MoL&E
Coal Companies:		
23	Shri P M Prasad	Chairman, Coal India Limited
24	Shri M Prasanna Kumar	CMD, NLC India Limited
25	Shri N. Balram	CMD, SCCL
26	Shri Jai Prakash Dwivedi	CMD, WCL
27	Shri P S Mishra	CMD, SECL

28	Shri B Sairam	CMD, NCL
29	Shri Samiran Dutta	CMD, BCCL
30	Shri Nilendu Kumar Singh	CMD, CCL
31	Shri Uday A Kaole	CMD, MCL
32	Shri Manoj Kumar	CMD, CMPDI
33	Shri Shankar Nagachari	Director (Technical/CRD), CMPDI
34	Shri Shivam Srivastava	Director (Fuel), NTPC Limited
35	Shri Bhupender Gupta	Director (Technical), THDC India Limited
36	Shri Chanchal Goswami	Director (Mining), WBPDC
37	Shri C P Garg	GM (Safety & Rescue), MCL
38	Shri P D Rathi	GM (Safety & Rescue), NCL
39	Sri C. Srinivas	GM (Safety), SCCL
40	Shri Rajendra Prasad	DGM, NTPC Limited
41	Shri Aloke Kumar Nath	Consultant (Mining), WBPDC
42	Shri Kausik Biswas	CEO, CESC
43	Shri Kajod Lal Meena	Director (Project), RRVUNL
44	Shri C Jeeva Kumar	Chief Engineer (Coal & Commercial), TGGenco
45	Shri Rishi Shrivastava	Asstt Vice President, Sasan Power Ltd
46	Shri Muddu S Shrinivas	Asstt Vice President, Sasan Power Ltd
47	Shri Harjit Singh	Director, Panjab State Power Corporation Limited
48	Shri Amitanjan Nandi	Executive Director, Damodar Valley Corporation
49	Shri Shree Niwas Chawla	DGM, Jaiprakash Power Ventures Ltd.
50	Shri Anirban Raychaudhury	General Manager, The Durgapur Projects Ltd
51	Shri Syed Khadry	Sr. Vice President, UltraTech Cement Limited.
52	Shri Pavan Kumar	Head (CA), Sunflag Iron & Steel Co. Ltd.
53	Shri Bhawani Prasad Mishra	Managing Director, B. S. Ispat Ltd.
54	Shri Devendra Nath	Chhattisgarh State Electricity Board
55	Shri Nihar Ranjan Satpathy	Associate Vice President, Jindal Steel & Power Ltd.
56	Shri Vijay Jain	Associate Vice President, Jindal Power Ltd.
57	Shri Sunil Tripathy	Head of Mines, OCPL
58	Shri Satya Narayan Meena	Deputy General Manager, Auro Infra Pvt. Ltd
59	Shri Sanjay Rajoria	General Manager, Tata Steel Limited
60	Shri Nilay Ghosh	General Manager, JMS Pvt Ltd.
61	Shri Jagdish Arora	Director (Project & Technical), NALCO
62	Shri R C Nagar	CM (Min/S&R), CIL (Nodal of NCMSR portal)