

No. 22022/03/2011-CRC-II
Government of India
Ministry of Coal

New Delhi, Dated : 20th December, 2012

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

**Subject : Minutes of the 36th meeting of Standing Committee on Safety
in Coal Mines held on 23.5.2012 at New Delhi.**

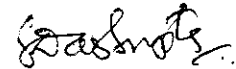
Sir,

I am directed to forward a copy of Minutes of the 36th meeting of the Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines held on 23.5.2012 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>. Comments/views, if any, on the minutes may be furnished to this Ministry by 20.01.2013 for consideration.

It is requested that ATR on the minutes may please be furnished to this by 27th February 2013 by fax/e-mail (address: socrc.moc@nic.in) to enable to prepare Agenda paper for next (37th) meeting of the Committee likely to be held very soon.

Encl. As above.

Yours faithfully,


(S. Das Gupta)
Section Officer

To:

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

Copy to :

1. PS to Hon'ble Minister of Coal
2. PS to Hon'ble Minister of State for Coal
3. Sr. PPS to Secretary (Coal)
4. PPS to Additional Secretary (Coal)
5. PS to Joint Secretary (Coal)
6. PS to Adviser (Projects)

Copy: alongwith copy of minutes to:

1. TD/NIC – Ministry of Coal with a request to put the minutes of 36th meeting of the Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines on Ministry's web-site.

LIST OF DISTRIBUTION:

1. Secretary, Ministry of Labour & Employment, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. Smt. Vandana Sharma, Director, Ministry of Labour & Employment, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi.
3. The Director General of Mines Safety, Directorate General of Mines Safety, Dhanbad (Jharkhand)
4. The Chairman, Coal India Ltd., 10-Netaji Subhas Road, Kolkata.
5. The Chairman/Managing Director, Neyveli Lignite Corpn, P.O.Neyveli, Tamilnadu.
6. The Chairman/Managing Director, Singareni Collieries Company Ltd., Kothagudem Collieries, Khamam Dist., (A.P.)-507107
7. The Chairman/Managing Director, Bharat Coking Coal Ltd., Koyla Bhavan, Koyla Nagar, Dhanbad (Jharkhand)
8. The Chairman/Managing Director, Central Coalfields Ltd., Dharbhanga House, Ranchi(Jharkhand)
9. The Chairman/Managing Director, Eastern Coalfields Ltd., Sanctoria, P.O.Dishergarh, Distt Burdwan (West Bengal)
10. The Chairman/Managing Director, Mahanadi Coalfield Ltd., Sambalpur, (Orissa)
11. The Chairman/Managing Director, Northern Coalfields Ltd., Singrauli, P.O. Singrauli Collieries, Distt. Sidhi (M.P.)
12. The Chairman/Managing Director, South Eastern Coalfields Ltd., P.B. 60, Seepat Road, Bilalpur (M.P.)
13. The Chairman/Managing Director, Western Coalfields Ltd., Coal Estate, Civil Lines, Nagpur.
14. Director (Personnel), Coal India Ltd., 10-Netaji Subhas Road, Kolkata
15. Director (Technical), Coal India Ltd., Netaji Subhas Road, Kolkata
16. Executive Director(S&R), Coal India Ltd., 10-Netaji Subhas Road, Kolkata.
17. The Chairman / Managing Director, Central Mine Planning and Design Institute, Gondwana Place Kanke Road, Ranchi (Jharkhand)
18. Dr. VVR Prasad, Director, Central Institute of Mining Research & Fuel, Berwa Road, Dhanbad (Jharkhand)
19. The General Manager, Tata Steel Ltd., Jharia Collieries, Jamadoba-828112, Dhanbad (Jharkhand)
20. The General Manager, I/C (Collieries), Steel Authority of India, IISCO Steel Plant, Colliery Complex, Chasnala Colliery, P.O. Chasnala, Dist. Dhanbad-828135 (Jharkhand)
21. Shri A. K. Thakur, Manager (Mining), Damodar Valley Corporation, Bermo Mines, P.O. Bermo, Dist. Bokaro, PIN-829104 (Jharkhand).
22. Shri. A.K. Tooley, Director, PANEM, 6 - Poorvi Marg, 3rd Floor, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi.
23. Shri A.R. Sharma, Advisor, Bengal EMTA Coal Mines Ltd., 6 - Poorvi Marg, 3rd Floor, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi.
24. General Manager, Jharkhand State Mineral Development Corporation, Khanij Nigam Bhavan, Doranda, Ranchi (Jharkkhand)
25. Shri A. K. Garg, General Manager, Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation, Khanij Bhavan, Off 132 Ft Ring Road, Nr. University Ground, Vastrapur,, Ahmedabad - 380052

26. Chief of Internal Safety, Rajasthan State Mines & Mineral Ltd., SBU & PC LIMESTONE, 8, West Patel Nagar, Circuit House Road, Jodhpur- 342011(Rajasthan)
27. Shri V. Ravikumar, Chief Executive, Integrated Coal Mining Limited, 6th Church Lane (1st Floor), Kolkata-700 001
28. Chief Manager (Mines), Gujarat Industries Power Co. Ltd., P.O. Naini Naroli, Taluka Mangrol, Distt. Surat-394110(Gujarat)
29. Shri D.N. Abrol, Executive Director (Raw Material), Jindal Steel & Power Ltd., Jindal Centre, 12 Bhikaiji Cama Place, New Delhi – 110 066.
30. Shri Rejendra Prasad Singh, Hon'ble M.L.A, President, Indian National Mine Workers Federation, (INTUC) C/o Dhori Colliery, P.O. Bermo. Distt, Bokaro, (Jharkhand) - 825102
31. Shri S. Q. Zama, General Secretary, Indian National Mines Workers Federation (INTUC) C/o Rashtriya Koyla Mazdoor Sangh, Plot No. 604, Giripeth Post Office, Nagpur-440010
32. Shri Ramendra Kumar, Secretary, Indian Mine Workers Federation, P.O.Bhurkunda Colliery, Distt. Hazaribagh (Jharkhand) - 829135
33. Shri A.C.Patra, General Secretary, Orissa Coal Mines Federation, P.O.Bera Colliery-759103, Distt. Angul, (Orissa)
34. Shri S.K.Pandey, General Secretary, Akhil Bhartiya Khadan Mazdoor Sangh (Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh), Qtr No. I-C/107, Post-Bisrampur Colliery, Distt. Sarguja-497226 (Chhattisgarh)
35. Shri Manas Kumar Mukherjee, General Secretary, All India Coal Workers' Federation (CITU), Dankuni Coal Complex Employees' Union, PO. - DCC Township, Dist.-Hooguly, (West Bengal) Pin: 712310
36. Shri Sankar Saha, General Secretary, All India United Trade Union Centre of L/S, 77/2/1, Lenin Sarani, Kolkata-700013
37. Shri V.P. Singh, President, Indian Mine Managers' Association, Bungalow No. 3, Beldih Lake, Northern Town, Jamshedpur – 831 001
38. Shri Shukdev Narayan, President, CMOAI (Apex) BCCL, Kusunda Area, P.O.Kusunda-828116, Distt. Dhanbad (Jharkhand)

MINUTES OF THE 36TH MEETING OF THE STANDING
COMMITTEE ON SAFETY IN COAL MINES HELD ON 23.5.2012
UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF HON'BLE MINISTER OF COAL AT
NEW DELHI

The list of the participants is given at **Annexure**.

1. Welcoming the participants, Secretary (Coal) requested Hon'ble Minister of Coal and distinguished guests to observe one minute silence in memory of all those who had laid down their lives in the cause of coal industry, since the last meeting of the Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines. This was followed by lighting of the lamp. Thereafter Secretary (Coal) requested Hon'ble Minister to address the participants.

2. Hon'ble Minister of Coal welcomed all the members of the Committee and highlighted the importance of coal in supporting country's energy plans and appreciated contribution of coal miners in this regard. He emphasized the need for improving the safety of coal mining operations. While appreciating the decline in number of fatalities in 2011 compared to the year 2010, Hon'ble Minister emphasized the need to reduce fatalities to nil with improved efforts for safety while enhancing production. He mentioned about the actions taken by coal companies in regard to implementation of the recommendations of Xth National Conference on Safety in Mines. He requested that members to deliberate all the critical safety issues in the interest of the coal industry. He requested Secretary (Coal) to conduct the meeting.

3. Following agenda items were deliberated:

Confirmation of the Minutes of the 35th Meeting

4. The minutes of the 35th meeting held on 23.9.2011 as circulated vide OM dated 25.10.2012 was adopted by the members after considering the observations of Shri S.K. Pandey, Representative of BMS requesting for deletion of last

sentence of item No. 14 of the minutes of the 35th meeting as his opinion was not properly reflected and the same was agreed to be dropped.

(Action: MoC)

ATR on recommendations of the 35th meeting

5. Action taken report on the recommendations of the 35th meeting and agenda items of the 36th meeting were deliberated in detail.

6. Regarding the article published in the DNA News Paper of Mumbai, Shri S.K. Pandey opined that mere correspondence through letter is not enough. This kind of incorrect information published by DNA News Agency should be strongly condemned. Hon'ble Minister directed CMD, CIL to look into the matter.

(Action: MoC/CIL)

Deployment of Contractor Workers

7. The union representatives reiterated their stand saying that the ex-gratia amount of Rs. 5 lacs being paid to the company employees should also be extended to the contractors' workers in case of mine accidental deaths as they are also contributing equally for coal production in the country. Hon'ble Minister while agreeing with the grievance of union representatives regarding extending the ex-gratia/compensation to contractors' workers who gets killed in mine accidents, desired that CMD, CIL to work out the modalities. CMD, CIL opined that settlement through Life Insurance Companies would be a more transparent mechanism and CIL can pay the premium of the policy on behalf of the contractor's workers. However, union representatives expressed that while this would be a better mechanism it, however, is not practicable in our situation since records of the workforce with the contractors is not being properly maintained and it also does not match with the provisions of the statutory payments like provident fund of the workers. In case of the accident the commotion will be so high unless the ex-gratia/compensation is released immediately the situation cannot be controlled. As such it is important to arrange for such compensation soon after the

incident. This was agreed to by the chair and all the CMDs were directed to look into the pending compensation cases in next two weeks time.

8. Shri Ramender Kumar, Representative of IMFW mentioned that the implementation of the decision to extend Diwali Gift to all the workers as per the announcement made by the Hon'ble Minister at the time of foundation day celebration of CIL about two years before, the management is yet to comply with the decision. Hon'ble Minister directed that CMD, CIL should immediately act upon the decision.

9. Shri R.P. Singh, Representative of INTUC mentioned that in case of two accidents that occurred in CCL in 2010, no compensation has been paid by the management till date and this is a very bad precedent. Hon'ble Minister requested CMD, CCL to respond who in turn mentioned that in the absence of the clarity regarding classification of the accident whether to be treated under Factories Act or under Mines Act, a decision could not be made till date in deciding the compensation. Hon'ble Minister expressed his displeasure over the delay on the part of CCL in this regard and directed CMD, CCL to immediately resolve the issue and settle the compensation accordingly.

10. The representatives of the unions reiterated their stand that in case of death of contractor's workers dependant employment should also be provided on par with departmental workers. However, it was explained that the same is not possible as the prime employer is the contractor.

11. Shri S.K. Pandey observed that the information provided regarding the employment of contractors' workers in different subsidiary companies of CIL does not indicate the employment in ECL which is not agreeable. Further the figures provided by CIL are largely in variance with the data pertaining to provident fund records. Hon'ble Minister desired that management of coal companies should be more careful in reconciling the figures and inform in the house next time onwards.

12. Regarding the minimum wages for contractors' workers in coal industry raised by the union representatives, Director (Personnel), CIL as a member of the committee of MOLE mentioned that the committee had held 5 rounds of meetings since its constitution on 16.4.2010 and is likely to conclude by June 2012. Hon'ble Minister desired that MOLE should expedite concluding the deliberations of the committee and fix minimum wages for coal industry for adoption by coal companies at the earliest.

(Action: All Coal Companies)

Inspection of Explosive Magazine

13. Regarding the issue of proper supervision of sensitive areas like magazines by CISF Personnel, Shri S.K. Pandey mentioned that in spite of pointing out the deficiencies in this regard repeatedly by him coal companies are not taking the matter seriously. He expressed that CISF Personnel are not being properly utilised and local security is being engaged for sensitive areas. CMD, WCL responded saying that for deployment of CISF a prior survey is done by the CISF officials and a decision is taken accordingly. Thus, the company has little say in directing CISF for deployment of their personnel. Hon'ble Minister desired CMD, CIL to look into the issue.

(Action: All Coal Companies)

Sub-Committee to Inspect the Private Mines

14. The house noted the inspection report of sub-committee on their visit to the mines of GMDC.

(Action: All Private Coal Companies/MoC/TUs)

Occupational Health Hazards

15. Shri S.K. Pandey mentioned that the contractors' workers are not being subjected to Initial Medical Examination (IME) as per the statutory provisions. Only Periodical Medical Examination (PME) is being done in these cases. It was clarified that since the contractors' workers keep rotating from different areas and

their employment records are not made available to the coal companies by the contractors it is not possible to subject them to IME. However, as per the statutory requirements these people are being subjected to PME. He further observed that all companies engaged in coal mining are not reporting the cases of occupational health and safety and same needs to be ensured.

16. Shri S.Q. Zama mentioned about the shortage of Medical and Para Medical staff in coal companies.

(Action: All Coal Companies)

Statutory Manpower

17. Shri R.K. Tiwari, Dy. GS, BCMU (AIUTUC) desired that the eligible internal candidates in different coal companies should first be promoted to fill the gaps in statutory manpower requirements. Then only recruitment from outside should be considered by CIL/subsidiary companies. In response Director (P), CIL mentioned that all the CMDs of the coal companies have been requested earlier to follow the suggestion for filling the gap at supervisory level and for executive level recruitments CIL has taken number of initiatives in filling the vacancies and promoting the eligible candidates. The representatives of the Unions further raised the issue of eligible candidates who have crossed the age limits due to the policy of CIL in not recruiting persons for quite some time earlier. They suggested that CIL may consider relaxing age limits in such cases for filling the gaps in statutory manpower.

18. DGMS mentioned that coal industry needs to strengthen the supervisory manpower in view of the deployment of large size contractors' workers. He mentioned that people should be trained in large numbers at the available Vocational Training Centres (VTCs) such that crisis of manpower can be addressed to. He requested different private operators to tie up the training facilities with the nearby VTCs and address the issue instead of mentioning non availability of trained manpower.

19. Shri S.Q. Zama suggested that a joint committee of CIL and DGMS may address the issue of shortage of statutory manpower.

20. Shri Sukhdeo Narayan, representative of CMOAI mentioned that a number of officers in CIL are getting demotivated even after clearing statutory examination since at the time of promotion their seniority is not being given due regard and this situation needs to be corrected.

21. CMD, NLC mentioned that in spite of best of their efforts they are not in a position to recruit statutory manpower particularly Overmen and Mining Sirdar as the candidates coming from Northern Region of the country are reluctant to join duty even after selection. They have already approached DGMS for relaxation in this regard and also to engage other than mining diploma holders for supervision purposes.

(Action: All Coal Companies)

Strata Control Cell

22. Shri S.K. Pandey mentioned that though Strata Control Cells have been established at area levels and company headquarters level their functioning needs to be further strengthened to utilise the services of the same. Director (T), CIL mentioned that monitoring of Strata Control Cells and making it effective is already being addressed and it is a scientific job for application and data generation.

23. He further emphasized the need for Risk Assessment and Management of mines as per the guidelines of DGMS. He requested management of coal mines to religiously follow the principles of risk assessments of mines and the awareness in this regard for timely action in preventing accidents.

(Action: All Coal Companies)

Roof Bolting

24. Shri S.K. Pandey further observed that the gap between the required number of Roof Bolting Machines and the number of machines provided needs to be quickly bridged. He further mentioned that the status indicated in the agenda paper in this regard does not indicate the procurement programme in case of some of the subsidiaries of CIL. Hon'ble Minister desired concerned CMDs to be particular while furnishing the information to the house.

(Action: All Coal Companies)

Safety Budget and its Utilisation

24. Shri Ramender Kumar, representative of IMWF mentioned that in spite of the emphasis laid on increasing safety expenditure the budgets provided are not being absorbed. He suggested that this needs to be thoroughly reviewed. Additional Secretary (Coal) mentioned that the issue of safety expenditure is the priority item for discussions in CMDs meet and as such there is no dearth of resources for safety related issues.

25. Shri S.Q. Zama suggested that the budget provided can be absorbed for procurement of rescue equipments etc which are high value items.

(Action: All Coal Companies)

Other Issues

26. Shri M.K. Mukherjee, representative of CITU desired to know about the number of mines closed on account of safety reasons and how many mines have been reorganised particularly in ECL areas. Director (T), ECL responded saying that these can be made available.

27. Shri S.K. Pandey mentioned that MoC may consider inviting the captive mine owners who are operating coal mines to the meetings of the Standing Committee. Hon'ble Minister responded saying that this needs to be examined. Shri R.K. Tiwari supported the stand of Shri S.K. Pandey

28. Shri S.K. Pandey mentioned about the report of the Court of Inquiry into the accident of Anjan Hill Mine of SECL and requested for a copy of the report and suggested to discuss the matter in the next meeting of the Standing Committee. DGMS mentioned that the report is available on the website of MoLE/DGMS.

(Action: MOC/DGMS/CIL)

29. Shri R.K. Tiwary, Dy. GS, BCMU (AIUTUC) desired that the proposed amendment in Mines Act 1952 (Draft Bill 2010) should be dropped. DG Mines Safety stated that this is not authentic forum for this issue.

(Action: No action)

30. Hon'ble Minister has given direction to CIL in the meeting to conclude the proceedings of HPC for contract workers.

(Action: CIL)

31. Hon'ble Minister has suggested to constitute Joint Committee at each subsidiary to decide whether accident is mining or non-mining.

(Action: CIL)

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Annexure

List of the participants of the 36th meeting of Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines held on 23.5.2012 in New Delhi.

<u>Sl. No.</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>DESIGNATION</u>
<u>MINISTRY OF COAL</u>		
1.	Minister of Coal	- Chairman
2.	Shri Alok Perti	Secretary (Coal)
3.	Smt. Zohra Chatterji	Additional Secretary
4.	Shri R.K. Mahajan	Joint Secretary (LA)
5.	Shri A.K. Bhalla	Joint secretary (Coal)
6.	Shri D.N. Prasad	Adviser (Projects)
7.	Shri Daljit Singh Chowdhary	PS to MOC
8.	Shri Dharmendra Prasad	OSD to MOC
9.	Shri M.L. Baharani	G.M., CIL
<u>TRADE UNION REPRESENTATIVES</u>		
10.	Shri Rajendra Prasad Singh, MLA	President, INMF (INTUC)
11.	Shri Ramendra Kumar	Secretary, IMWF (AITUC)
12.	Shri S.Q. Zama	Secy. Gen. INMF (INTUC)
13.	Shri Surender Kumar Pandey	General Secretary, BMS
14.	Shri Manas Kumar Mukherjee	Gen. Secretary, DCCEU (CITU)
15.	Dr. Vinod P. Singh	President, IMMA
16.	R.K. Tewary Dy. Gen. Secy, Bihar Coal Miners' Union (AIUTUC)	
17.	Shri Shukdeo Narayan	President, CMOAI (Apex), BCCL
<u>MINISTRY OF LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT, DGMS</u>		
18.	Shri Satish Puri	DG, DGMS
19.	Shri Chandra Prakash	Joint Secretary, MOLE
19.	Smt. Vandana Sharma	Director, MOLE
20.	Shri B.K. Sanwariya	Dy. Chief Labour Commissioner
<u>COAL INDIA LIMITED</u>		
21.	Shri S. Narsing Rao	Chairman, CIL
22.	Shri A.K. Sinha	Director (F), CIL
23.	Shri R. Mohan Das	Director (P&IR)

24.	Shri T.K. Lahiry	CMD, BCCL
25.	Shri Gopal Singh	CMD, CCL
26.	Shri V.K. Singh	CMD, NCL
27.	Shri A.N. Sahay	CMD, MCL
28.	Shri D.C. Garg	CMD, WCL
29.	Shar Phalguni Guha	CGM (S&R), CIL
33.	Shri A.G. Mukherjee	CGM (S&C) WCL
34.	Shri A.K. Goswami	GM (M), SECL
35.	Shri A.K. Nathi	GM (Safety), CIL
36.	Shri Jitendra Singh	CGM (S&R), MCL
37.	Shri S.N. Udadhyay	CGM (S&R), ECL
38.	Shri Damodar Banerjee	CGM, ECL
39.	Shri T.B. Mitra	CGM (S&R), CCL
40.	Shri Deboulal Sarkar	Sr. Manager (Mining), CIL

SINGARENI COLLIERIES COMPANY LIMITED (SCCL)

41.	Shri Sutirtha Bhattacharya	CMD
42.	Shri B. Ramesh Kumar	Director (P&P)

NEYVELI LIGNITE CORPORATION LIMITED (NLC)

42.	Shri A.R. Ansari	CMD
43.	Shri T. Vijayakumar	Director (P)

CENTRAL MINE PLANNING & DESIGN INSTITUTE (CMPDI)

44.	Shri A.K. Singh	CMD, CMPDI
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CENRAL INSTITUTE OF MINING & FUEL RESEARCH (CIMFR)

45.	Dr. V.V.R. Prasad	Dy. Director CIMFR
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DAMODAR VALLEY CORPORATION (DVC)

46.	Shri A.K. Thakur	Manager (Mining)
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INTEGRATED COAL MINING LTD (ICML)

47.	Shri V. Ravikumar	Chief Executive
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JINDAL STEEL

48.	Shri D.N. Abrol	E.D. (R.M.)
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TATA STEEL

49. Shri Ch. Divakar General Manager

BENGAL EMTA COAL MINES LIMITED

50. Shri A.R. Sharma Adviser, BECML

51. Shri A.K. Tooley Director, PANEM

JHARKHAND STATE MINERAL DEV. CORPORATION LTD.

52. Shri C. Mishra GM

GUJARAT INDUSTRIES POWER CO. LTD (GIPCL)

53. Shri M.A. Nipane Chief Manager (Mines)

GUJARAT MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORP. (GMDC)

54. Shri A.K. Garg General Manager