



भारत सरकार/Government of India  
श्रम एवं रोजगार मंत्रालय/ Ministry of Labour & Employment  
खान सुरक्षा महानिदेशालय/ Directorate General of Mines Safety



No. DGMS(Tech) Instruction (SOMA)/01

Dhanbad, dated 24/03/2026

To  
All Inspecting Officers.

**Subject: Accident Prevention Programme– regarding.**

**Sir,**

An increasing trend in mine accidents has been observed during January, 2025 to December, 2025. Analysis of accident data indicates that a majority of incidents have occurred in opencast mines. The rise in accidents is predominantly associated with the operation of trackless machinery, deployment of Heavy Earth Moving Machinery (HEMM), occurrences of side fall/bench failure, and hazards related to blasting operations involving explosives.

Table showing accident in the year 2025 is given as below:

Month wise	Fatal Accidents		Serious Accidents	
	Coal	Non-Coal	Coal	Non-Coal
January, 2025	4	2	9	1
February, 2025	4	1	6	4
March, 2025	4	4	13	1
April, 2025	3	1	9	4
May, 2025	4	2	11	2
June, 2025	3	9	11	1
July, 2025	3	3	6	8
August, 2025	2	4	11	3
September, 2025	3	5	9	0
October, 2025	6	4	14	2
November, 2025	3	5	7	2
December, 2025	2	2	11	2
Total	41	42	117	30

Accordingly, all Zonal Offices were requested to submit Accident Prevention Programmes for their respective jurisdictions. Upon compilation and review of the programmes received from various Zonal Offices, it has been observed that several preventive initiatives have been proposed, including organization of Safety Awareness Programmes, workshops, special pit safety committee meetings, and review of Safety Management Plans (SMP) & Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

However, a critical component of accident prevention, i.e. structured and competency-based training of work persons, competent persons, and frontline supervisors, has not been adequately incorporated

in the proposed programmes. Training plays a vital role in enhancing hazard recognition, safe work practices, operational discipline, and effective supervision at the field level, particularly in highly mechanized opencast mining operations.

The following steps shall be taken:

1. It has been observed that, in several instances, frontline supervisors and competent persons have also been involved in accidents, including fatal incidents. This aspect requires special attention. Accordingly, focused training programmes shall be organized for all competent persons and frontline supervisors to enhance their competency in hazard identification, risk assessment, safe operational practices, and effective supervision at the workplace, with the objective of preventing recurrence of such accidents.

All Regional Offices shall conduct a special drive for site-specific inspection of mines under their jurisdiction, taking into consideration the causes and trends of accidents observed in the respective regions. The inspections shall focus on identification of hazard-prone areas/activities, assessment of compliance with statutory provisions, evaluation of operational practices, and verification of implementation of adequate preventive and control measures.

3. Special Pit Safety Committee meetings shall be conducted in mines where accidents have increased, to discuss the causes and circumstances leading to such accidents and to recommend measures for preventing their recurrence. Such meetings shall also be conducted in other mines where similar conditions, i.e., conditions under which higher incidences of accidents have occurred, prevail.
4. It shall be ensured that all contractual personnel have received proper training relevant to their work. The training should include basic job knowledge, safety practices, and proper use of equipment. It shall also be verified that a system is in place to assess the skills and competency of contractual personnel.
5. It shall be ensured that all statutory registers and records required to be maintained under applicable regulations and rules, are properly maintained and updated. These records shall be verified.
6. An Action Taken Report on accident prevention measures and efforts to reduce accidents shall be submitted quarterly to the Headquarters (HQ) by the respective Zonal Offices.

All inspecting officers shall take necessary measures to ensure that the accident prevention programme is implemented in all concerned mines in its true spirit, thereby contributing to the improvement of occupational safety and health of persons employed in the mines.

  
24/03/26  
(Ujjwal Tah)

**Director General of Mines Safety**