

To,
Owners, Agents and Managers of
All Coal and Non-Coal Mines

Subject: : Proper layout of workshop located in the precincts of opencast mines.

Enquiry into some of the fatal accidents which had occurred in the precincts of workshop of opencast mines in the recent past has revealed that there was lack of proper parking place for dumpers and other heavy earth moving machineries (HEMM) leading to haphazard parking. Further, canteen, time office, bi-cycle and other two wheeler sheds, site officers, stores etc. were so located that employees and visitors had to regularly use the area frequented by HEMM. All these observations bring to focus the need for proper layout of workshops.

The 7th conference on Safety in Mines has also recommended that adequate attention should be given towards proper layout of repair sheds and workshop to ensure due protection to work persons employed at these places from the movement of heavy earth moving machineries. Each company should ensure that for every mine a scheme is drawn and implemented for proper maintenance, repair, overhaul and erection in respect of HEMM. This scheme should cover places such as sheds and workshops. Every help if required should be obtained from manufactures also.

In order to prevent recurrence of such accidents, besides implementing the relevant recommendation of the Conference on Safety in Mines, following additional steps may be taken in respect of layout of workshop :-

- 1 The path of movement of HEMM and that of other light vehicles shall be completely separate.
- 2 Canteen, time office, site officers, stores, two wheeler shed etc. shall be located where the movement of HEMM is the least.
- 3 Minimum number of persons are required to pass through workshop area.
- 4 Proper parking area for HEMM and earmarked paths for their movement shall be provided.
- 5 Exclusive brake testing area properly demarcated and protected by substantial fencing shall be provided in the precincts of the workshop where the operators may test the brakes of the HEMM as and when required.

The above recommendations shall be implemented strictly in the interest of safety.

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