

## THE MINES RULES -1955

### Rule 29 B

#### **Occupational Health Services in mining industry ( recommendations of seventh Conference on Safety in mines)**

The seventh Conference on Safety in Mines (1988) made the following recommendations :-

#### 4.0 OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES IN MINING INDUSTRY

4.1 There is a need for creation of a Department of Occupational Health Services in each mining company working mechanised mines.

4.2 Occupational Health Services shall have sufficient technical personnel with specialized training and experience in such field as occupational medicine, industrial hygiene, ergonomics, occupational health and nursing. They should, as far as possible, keep themselves up-to-date with progress in the scientific and technical knowledge necessary to perform their duties. The Occupational, Health Service should in addition, have necessary administrative personnel for their operation. Equipment and appliances of proper type should be provided for carrying out the assigned functions.

4.3 The Occupational Health Services shall carry out the following functions:

- (i) identification and assessment of the risk from health hazards at work place;
- (ii) surveillance of the factors in working environment and work practice which may affect workers' health;
- (iii) surveillance of workers' health in relation to work;
- (iv) education of workers on sanitation, cleanliness, hygiene and health care;
- (v) collaborating in providing information, training and education in the fields of occupational health, industrial hygiene and ergonomics;
- (vi) organisation of first-aid in mines including training and retraining.
- (vii) preparing a quarterly status report on occupational health and industrial hygiene in the mines of the concerned company. The quarterly report should include information on medical examinations, notifiable disease, status of first-aid, results of survey for air borne dust, noise, temperature, quantity of air and sanitation in working places;
- (viii) the report of medical examination of each worker should be maintained regularly and the record of periodical medical examinations should be maintained systematically. Application of computer for storing and retrieval of data would be desirable.
- (ix) advising the management on occupational health, industrial hygiene, first-aid, ergonomics.

4.4 The Occupational Health Services shall be headed by a Senior Officer.

4.5 Occupational Health Physician should be a member of the Safety Committee where he could contribute to the health education of workers.

4.6 (i) Management of every mechanised mine should, in consultation with experts of the Occupational Health Services, prepare a scheme for:

- (a) identification of operations and activities where factors which are hazardous to health of persons at work exist or may arise during the course of work;
- (b) monitoring the levels or values of different factors which may affect health of persons;
- (c) specifying the various control measures necessary for keeping the levels/values within the permissible limits;
- (d) health surveillance;
- (e) health education;
- (d) first-aid training.

(ii) The above scheme should clearly specify the types of instruments to be used for monitoring, frequency of observations/examinations, type of training, education, recording of data and responsibility of various persons for implementation of the scheme.

4.7 Management of every mine should ensure that-

- (i) all mine workers are given basic training in first aid;
- (ii) holders of first-aid certificates are given refresher training once in two years;
- (iii) rescue trained persons acquire highest standards of proficiency in first-aid;
- (iv) ambulance vans are fully equipped with life saving drugs, medicines and appliances needed in emergency.

4.8 In respect of small mechanised mines which are mostly operating in non-coal sector, it may not be feasible for a small organisation to create a special department on occupational health services. For such small mines, it is suggested that an Association of small mine operators creates common facilities and infrastructure for occupational health services. Creation of such facility is specially needed for asbestos, manganese and mica mines. Simultaneously with creation of facilities for occupational health services it is also necessary to improve quality of life of employees working in mining industry by provision of well planned housing colonies with all modern facilities such as good drinking water, good sanitation, drainage and recreational facility.

**(Cir. Tech. 1/1989)**

### **Screening of Chest Radiographs for Pneumoconiosis and Silicosis by Using ILO Classification 2000**

It has been observed during inspection of PME Centers that Chest Radiographs of Initial and Periodical Medical Examinations conducted under Rule 29B of Mines Rules, 1955 are not being screened and classified for Pneumoconiosis or Silicosis in accordance with ILO Classification.

Attention is drawn to the recommendations of VIIIth and IXth Conference on Safety in Mines on Occupational health Surveillance and all concerned are hereby directed to get the chest radiographs of medical examinations of workers screened and evaluated for Pneumoconiosis and Silicosis in accordance with ILO International Classification of Radiographs of Pneumoconiosis, 2000. The standard set of ILO Classification, 2000 can be procured on payment from;

Sales Department  
International Labour Organisation  
Core-4B, 3rd Floor  
India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road  
New Delhi - 110 003  
Phone No.011 -24602101

You are also advised to get PME Medical Officers trained in use of ILO international Classification of Radiographs of Pneumoconiosis, 2000 so that cases of pneumoconiosis and silicosis are detected at an early stage and necessary action is taken for prevention and rehabilitation.

**(Cir.Tech. 5/2007)**

### **Rule 29 V**

#### **Safety Committee Meeting**

In order to improve the effectiveness of the meetings of "Safety Committee" and to make the proceedings more meaningful, it is suggested that the meeting of the Safety Committee at any mine should be held regularly and invariably attended by persons of the superior management. Due and necessary consideration should be given to all the suggestions emanating from the "Workmen's Inspectors" and workers' representatives. Every meeting of the safety committee should also record the action, if any, taken on the suggestions/ observations of the above named persons as well as other defects pointed out in earlier meeting(s).

**(Cir. Genl. 1/1997)**

## **Rule 62**

### **Rest shelters**

Rest shelters are the only place which afford protection from sun and rain and where the workers can take food and rest. It is therefore considered that a shelter should be provided at every mine even if the employment is less than 50. However in such mines the construction of shelters need not conform to the standards laid down by the Directorate. A shelter constructed out of the locally available materials will serve the purpose provided it affords adequate shelter against sun and rain and is well lighted and ventilated.

At the mines employing more than 50 persons the rest shelters shall continue to be constructed in accordance with the design approved by this Directorate.

**(Cir 25/1972)**

## **Rule 63**

### **Temporary Rest Shelters**

Pucca shelters should be built to approved design (Drawing No. MR-63A/I). Variations may be permitted if the standard of facilities is not less and the floor area is adequate.

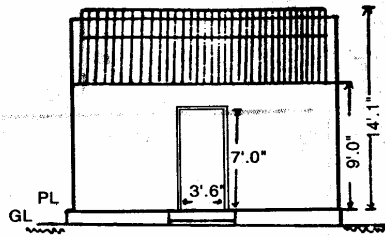
It may however not be necessary to provide such a pucca shelter at places where the work going on is of a temporary nature. In particular in non-coal mines where the mineral deposit is of a scattered nature the position of the mining face changes very frequently. In such cases it is sufficient if temporary rest shelter is provided at a suitable place near working place. The temporary shelter should comply with the model design (Drawing No. MR-62/A2). The hatched lines in this drawing indicate that wooden scantlings have been used in the structure. The design may of course be altered by JDMS to suit local conditions.

**(DGMS instructions dated 8th May 1957 and 13th November 1957)**

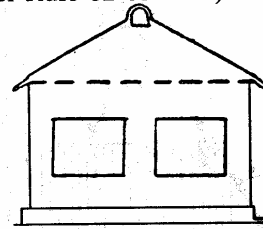
Drawing No. MR 63A/1  
(Scale 1" = 8')

### PUCCA SHELTER

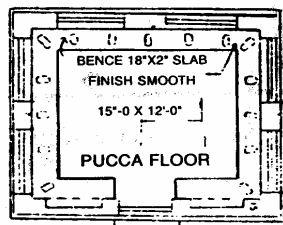
Near Depot & Quarry Working  
(Under Rule 62 of 1955)



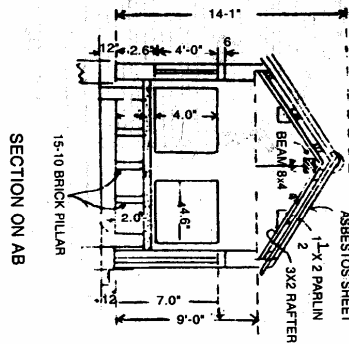
FRONT VIEW



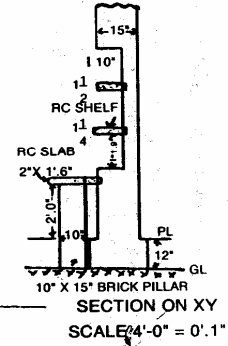
SIDE VIEW



PLAN



SECTION ON AB



SECTION ON XY  
SCALE 4'-0" = 0'.1"

### TEMPORARY REST SHELTER

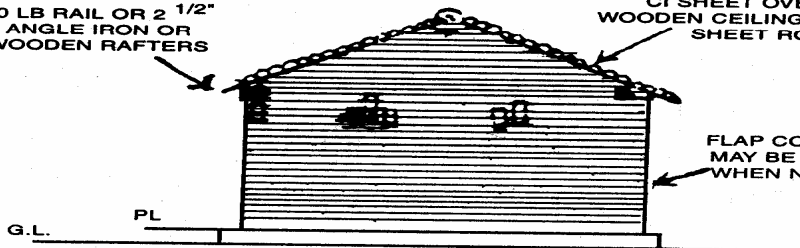
(Drawing No. MR 63A/2)

WHERE THE RATE OF ADVANCE OF FACES IS HIGH, TEMPORARY REST SHELTERS TO THIS DESIGN MAY BE PROVIDED NEAR THE FACES (IN ADDITION TO PUCCA SHELTERS BEHIND THE FACES) AND MAY BE ADVANCED OCCASIONALLY WITH THE FACES. SUCH SHELTERS MAY ALSO BE ERRECTED WHERE THE LIFE OF MINE IS SMALL

80 LB RAIL OR 2 1/2" ANGLE IRON OR WOODEN RAFTERS

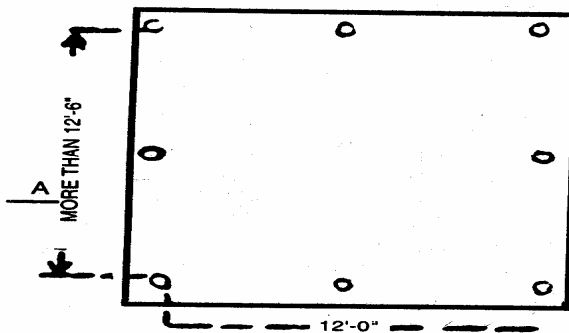
CI SHEET OVER 1" THICK WOODEN CEILING OR ASBESTOS SHEET ROOFING

FLAP COVER WHICH MAY BE HINGED UP WHEN NECESSARY



SECTION ON A-B

ONE SIDE OF THE SHELTER WHICH IS NOT FACING THE WORKING FACE MAY BE KEPT OPEN COMPLETELY



PLAN

## **Rule 64**

### **Mobile canteens**

The Working Group constituted by the Ministry of Labour and Employment to enquire into the compliance at mines of welfare provisions under the Mines Act recommended that in mines having extensive opencast and surface workings with scattered employment it may be advisable to have besides a suitable canteen at a central place, a number of mobile canteen vans to serve persons employed at the scattered points.

(Cir. 22/1959)

### **Design of canteens**

Four designs of canteen Drawing Nos. MR/64A/1, MR/64A/2, MR-64A-3 and MR-64A-4), having a seating capacity of 160,80,50 and 25 respectively have been approved (Variations in the designs may be permitted by the DGMS provided the standard of facilities provided is not less and the floor area is adequate).

The size of a canteen to be provided in a particular mine will be determined by the JDMS on the basis of the largest number of persons employed on any shift in the mine. (See drawings given ahead)

(DGMS Instructions dt. 21.6.57 & 8.1.1958)

### **Working hours of mine canteens**

Attention is invited to the provisions of Rule 64(1) of the Mines Rules 1955 under which, whenever required by Chief Inspector or an Inspector, a canteen shall be provided and maintained in or adjacent to the precincts of a mine wherein more than 250 persons are ordinarily employed. Such facilities are to be provided for all persons employed in the mine. The canteen should thus remain open throughout each shift wherein persons are employed at the mine.

It is therefore requested to comply with the requirement of the law as indicated above.

(Cir. Welfare 1/1981)

## **Rule 68**

### **Management of canteens**

It has been brought to the notice of the Govt. of India that at some mines canteens are not being run departmentally but through contractors. This practice is not in accordance with the provisions of Rule 68 of Mines Rules 1955, which clearly specifies "that the owner, agent or manager shall appoint supervisory and other staff sufficient for the proper working of the canteen".

This decision was also agreed to at the Eighth Session of the Industrial Committee on Coal Mines.

(Cir. 21/1961)

## **Rule 72**

### **Appointment of Women Welfare Officers**

The Estimates committee (1959-60) on the Ministry of Labour & Employment, in their 84th report have recommended appointment of Women Welfare Officers in mines employing a large proportion of women workers.

**Rule 78**

**Definition of 'absence'**

Absence should include all cases in which a person is 'scheduled to work' or is expected to turn up for work, but does not. All permanent employees are to be treated as 'scheduled to work' So far as temporary or casual employees are concerned, a person who attended work during the preceding week should be considered as scheduled to work during the week under consideration unless (i) he has reported his intention to quit, or (ii) his services have been terminated by the management, or (iii) he does not turn up for work during the whole week. A person who has not worked during the preceding week, should be considered as 'scheduled to work' only from the day on which he joins work during the week under consideration. Absence due to strike, lock-out, lay-off or maternity leave should not be included as absences.

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