

No.DGMS/SOMA/(Tech) Circular No.6

dated Dhanbad 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2004

To,  
The Owners, Agents and Managers of  
All coal mines

Subject: Monsoon preparation and Precaution against danger of inundation from surface water.

Precautions against inrush of water into the mine or part thereof has been provided under Regulation 126(1)(a) of CMR, 1957.

Identification of possible sources of danger due to surface, water and remedial measures to avoid such danger was also emphasized in DGMS Tech. Circular No. 2 of 1978.

In spite of above guide lines and caution letters issued from this Directorate time to time, there have been cases of inundation in underground and opencast mines, mainly because adequate preparations were not observed . It is pertinent to mention that seasonal water bodies are more dangerous than the perennial one because of sudden rise in water level due to rains in or around the catchments area and heavy current of water which cuts across the bounds and barriers deviating its normal course of water thereby flooding low lying areas including mines etc. Again it is reiterated that evolving a system is not enough, it is required to ensure that no link fails at critical moment.

Apart from ensuring the system as comprised in DGMS Cir No. 2 of 1978 following additional arrangement shall also be made.

- 1 Surface cracks, pot holes and subsidence area shall be filled up and leveled; and bore holes if any shall be plugged/ covered effectively.
- 2 Surface garland drains shall be made around the mine especially in hilly terrain and in ground sloping towards mine openings so that water flows away from the mine.
- 3 Water dams and pumping capacities shall be suitably enhanced to accommodate increase in seepage water.
- 4 Additional pumps and delivery lines of suitable capacity shall be maintained for group of mines in each area.
- 5 Two separate power lines shall be ensured for pumping wherever possible Diesel Generator sets with independent power lines shall be maintained.
- 6(i) In opencast mines, wherever pontoon pump are installed, it shall be ensured that pontoons of adequate design are properly maintained .
- 6(ii) Standing order for safe operation and maintenance of pontoons and pumps shall be formed and strictly enforced.

6(iii) Mock rehearsals shall be held at regular interval prior to monsoon so that all concerned are familiar with standing order.

7 Detailed precautionary measures against danger of inundation shall be laid down while working beneath or in the vicinity of rivers and surface water bodies, particularly during rainy season. The other precautions as recommended by the Gaslitand court of enquiry which were circulated vide DGMS circular No. 1 and 2 of 2001 shall be followed.

I solicit your co-operation towards effective implementation in the interest of safety of persons employed in the mines.

sd/-  
( Ravindra Sharam )  
Director General of Mines Safery