

Ministry of Labour and Employment Conducts Mock Drill at Surda Copper Mine, of M/s Hindustan Copper Limited to Assess Emergency Preparedness under Crisis Management Plan, 2024

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A mock drill to assess preparedness to deal with mine disaster was conducted today by Directorate General of Mines and Safety (DGMS) under the guidance of Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoLE) at Surda Copper Mine, Village Surda- Sohda, Chatshila, East Singhbhum District, Jharkhand State of M/s Hindustan Copper Limited. The drill was undertaken by DGMS as a part of the Crisis Management Plan.

The mock drill simulated a scenario in which around ten miners were trapped underground due to a roof fall/collapse. In response, the rescue personnel were swiftly mobilized, and the emergency plan of the mine was activated. DG, DGMS instantly informed senior ministry officials about the incident and activated the control room at the Ministry level. Similar control rooms were activated at the site, DGMS Headquarters in Dhanbad and DGMS Zonal office, Ranchi to facilitate coordination between the accident site and the Ministry, ensuring seamless communication. The officials from DGMS, Chaibasa Region and Zonal Office, Ranchi swiftly reached the spot and coordinated and supervised the rescue & recovery operations with the mine management and rescue team of M/s Uranium Corporation of India.

DGMS officials were also tasked with maintaining a comprehensive log of events to enhance real-time monitoring, coordination, and strategic decision-making by the Ministry.

The drill was aimed to evaluate emergency preparedness to deal with any unforeseen situation and to better equip from the learnings for risk mitigation.

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