

## Abstract of CHAPTER [IV-A]

### Mines Rule 1955

#### Medical Examination of Persons Employed or to Be Employed in Mines

**29-A. Applicability of this Chapter.**- It will be not apply to persons who are employed purely on temporary or casual basis for a continuous period not exceeding six months.

**29-B. Initial and periodical medical examinations**—The owner, agent or manager of every mine shall make arrangements—

(a) (i) -----

(ii) for the initial medical examination of every person seeking employment in a mine, unless such person has already undergone, within the preceding five years, a medical examination under these rules while in employment at another mine; and

(b) for the periodical medical examination thereafter of every person employed in the mine at intervals of not more than five years:

**29-C. Examining authorities.** -The medical examination aforesaid shall be carried out by a Medical Officer appointed for the mine or a Medical Officer in the employment of the owner of the mine, if any, or by any Medical Officer employed in the Coal Mines Welfare Fund Organisation or any other mines welfare organisation, failing which by any State or Central Government medical officer not below the rank of an Assistant Civil Surgeon.

**29-F. Standard and report of medical examination** .—

(1) The examining authority holding initial medical examination under sub-clause (i) of clause (a), or periodical medical examination under clause (b) of rule 29-B shall examine a person according to the standard laid down in Form P and the initial medical examination under sub-clause (ii) of clause (a) of rule 29-B of all persons seeking employment in a mine shall be according to the standard laid down in Form P-I.

(2) As soon as may be, after examination, a copy of the medical certificate in Form O, shall be issued by the examining authority to the person concerned by registered post or delivered under receipt and another copy sent to the manager of the mine concerned by registered post, or delivered under receipt.

(3) The examining authority shall retain the third copy of the medical certificate.

(4) In the case of periodical medical examination of a person, the examining authority shall also send the copy of the previous medical certificate of the person concerned received in pursuance of sub-rule (1) of rule 29-D to the manager of the mine concerned.

**29-N. Compensation for industrial disease** .—If, as a result of any medical examination under these rules or under the regulations, a person is found to have contracted any disease specified in Part C of Schedule III to the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 (8 of 1923), the provision of section 3 of the Act shall become applicable in respect of that person.

**29-O. Cost of medical examination** .—Subject to the provisions of sub-rule (3) of rule 29-J full cost of every medical examination under these rules, shall be borne by the owner of the mine concerned.

**29-P. Annual returns** .—(1) On or before the 20th day of February every year, the manager of every mine shall submit to the Chief Inspector annual returns in respect of the preceding calendar year in Form T. (2) If a mine is abandoned or working thereof is discontinued over a period exceeding sixty days or if a change occurs in the ownership of a mine, the returns required under sub-rule (1) shall be submitted within thirty days of abandonment or change of ownership or within ninety days of discontinuance, as the case may be.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> CONFERENCE ON SAFETY IN MINES  
(wrt Occupational Health)

**9<sup>th</sup> conference-:**

1.7 Audiometry should be introduced, as a part of mandatory medical examination, for persons seeking employment in mines and for persons engaged in operations/areas where noise level exceeds 90 dB (A).

1.14.1 All chest radiographs of Initial and Periodical Medical Examinations in private mines shall be classified for detection, diagnosis and documentation of pneumoconiosis in accordance with ILO classification for pneumoconiosis.

1.14.2 The PME Medical Officer in every PME centre of private mines shall be trained in occupational health and use of ILO classification for pneumoconiosis.

1.14.3 Each mining company operating mechanized mines shall set up an Occupational Diseases Board consisting of one occupational Health Physician, one radiologist and one general physician.

**10th conference-:**

2.2(g) All persons deployed by the contractor for working in a mine must undergo vocational training, initial medical examination, PME. They should be issued cards stating the name of the contractor and the work and its validity period, indicating status of VT & IME.

4.5 Initial medical examination shall be made mandatory for all mining employees whether permanent, temporary or contractual, before they are engaged in any mining job

4.6 The frequency of periodic medical examinations should be brought down from existing five years to three years for the mining employees above 45 years of age.

4.7 Standards of medical examinations for both Initial and Periodic should be modified as mentioned below in order to ensure early diagnosis of more diseases caused or get aggravated due to employment in mines.

(a) In addition to measurement of blood pressure, detailed cardiovascular assessment of employees should be done. This should include 12 leads electrocardiogram and complete lipid profile.

(b) Detailed neurological examinations including testing of all major superficial and deep reflexes and assessment of peripheral circulation to diagnose vibrational syndromes.

(c) In addition to routine urine, fasting and post-parandial blood sugar should be included for early diagnosis of diabetes mellitus.

(d) Serum Urea and Creatinine should be included for assessment of renal function.

(e) Hematological tests like Total count, Differential count, percentage of Hemoglobin and Erythrocyte Sedimentation Rate should be included to diagnose Blood Dyscrasias.

4.8 **Special tests** should be included in the PME for employees exposed to specific health hazard: (a) For employees exposed to manganese....

(b) For persons exposed to lead .....

(c) **Employees engaged in food handling** and preparation and handling of stemming material activities should undergo routine stool examination once in a every six months and sputum for AFB and chest radiograph once in a year.

(d) **Employees engaged in driving/HEMM** operation jobs should undergo **eye refraction test at least once in a year.**

(e) Employees exposed to ionizing radiation should undergo blood count at least once in a year.

4.9 It is proposed to include following diseases in the list of Notified diseases under Section 25 (1) of Mines Act, 1952:

(a) All other types of Pneumoconiosis excluding Coal workers pneumoconiosis, Silicosis and Asbestosis. This includes Siderosis & Berillyosis.

(b) Noise induced hearing loss.

(c) Contact Dermatitis caused by direct contact with chemicals.

(d) Pathological manifestations due to radium or radioactive substances.