

## **COAL MINES PITHEAD BATH RULES, 1959**

### CONTENTS

1. Short title and extent
2. Definitions
3. Provision of pithead baths
4. Scale of shower baths and sanitary facilities
5. Standards of construction for pithead baths
6. Water for pithead baths
7. Lighting
8. Attendants
9. Locker-rooms
10. Cleanliness
11. Supply of Soap and oil
12. Alternative bathing facilities
13. Authority empowered to inspect
14. Repeal

## **COAL MINES PITHEAD BATH RULES, 1959**

S. O. 1711.-In exercise of the powers conferred by CLs. (e) and (f) of Sec. 53 of the Mines Act, 1952 (35 of 1952), the Central Government hereby makes the following rules, the same having been previously published and referred to every Mining Board concerned as required by sub-sections (1) and (4) of Sec. 59 of the said Act, namely:

### **1. Short title and extent :-**

- (1) These rules may be called the Coal Mines Pithead Bath Rules, 1959.
- (2) They extend to the whole of India except the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

### **2. Definitions :-**

(a)

- (i) "Category 'A' mine" means a coal mine, the average monthly output of which exceeds 600 tons but does not exceed 2,500 tons;
- (ii) "Category 'B' mine" means a coal mine, the average monthly

output of which exceeds 2,500 tons but does not exceed 10,000 tons:

(iii) "Category 'C' mine" means a coal mine, the average monthly output of which exceeds 10,000 tons but does not exceed 20,000 tons:

(iv) "Category 'D' mine" means a coal mine, the average monthly output of which exceeds 20,000 tons.

(b) "competent authority" means the Coal Mines Welfare Commissioner and Includes any other officer appointed by the Central Government to perform all or any of the functions of a competent authority under these rules;

(c) "pithead bath" means a bathing place at or near a pithead for the use of persons employed In a mine.

### **3. Provision of pithead baths :-**

The owner, agent or manager of every coal mine falling under any of the categories referred to In Cl. (a) of rule 2, shall, within such period as may be specified by the competent authority, construct on a suitable site selected by him with the previous approval of the competent authority, a pithead bath in accordance with plans prepared In conformity with these rules and approved by the competent authority: Provided that-

(i) the competent authority may. In exceptional cases. [\* \* \*] grant exemption from this requirement to mines the resources of which are not sufficient to enable them to make provision for adequate supply of water for pitheaded baths:

(ii) the competent authority may grant exemption In respect of any mine on production of a certificate from the Chief Inspector of Mines that Its productive capacity will be exhausted within the next three years, subject to such conditions as the competent authority may specify regarding the provision of alternative bathing facilities of a temporary character:

(iii) in a mine with more than one opening, the owner, agent or manager may instal more pithead baths than one, provided that the total number of shower baths Installed and latrines provided shall not be less than that prescribed In rule 4: and

(iv) If the competent authority Is satisfied that no- Inconvenience will be caused to persons employed in the mines If a single pithead

bath is provided to serve neighbouring mines [\* \* \*] he may authorize the owners of such mines to provide a single pithead bath to serve such mines, which together shall, for the purpose of rule 4. be deemed to be a single mine with an average monthly output equal to the combined average monthly output of the Individual mines.

#### **4. Scale of shower baths and sanitary facilities :-**

(1) Every pithead bath shall be provided with shower baths and sanitary latrines on the following scale : Provided that the distribution of the number of baths and latrines between men and women may be changed in proportion to the actual number of men and women employed but the total number of baths and latrines herein prescribed shall not be reduced : Provided further that no reservation for women shall be necessary if no women are employed in the mine concerned.

(2) Every pithead bath shall be provided with urinals separately for men and women on the scale of one for every 50 persons employed in the mine.

#### **5. Standards of construction for pithead baths :-**

Every pithead bath shall conform to the following standard of construction :

(i) It shall be well-designed and substantially constructed building with separate bath cubicles and ancillary facilities for men and women so laid out as to provide proper segregation of the sexes.

(ii) It shall be built in brick-in-cement mortar with a roof of cement concrete or corrugated asbestos cement sheets or tiles, provided that the competent authority may authorize any other type of construction.

(iii) The floor and any interior surfaces of the walls which are liable to become wet, shall be cement plastered with special finish, or tiled, or finished in any other prescribed manner approved by the competent authority so as to provide an impervious and clean surface provided that the walls need be so treated only up to a height of 1.829 metres from floor level.

(iv) Each bath cubicle shall be designed for the use of one person at a time, shall have a floor area of not less than 1.12 square metres and shall contain a shower bath with proper fittings for

turning the water on and off: Provided that in the case of pithead bath which was in existence prior to the 23rd July, 1946, the competent authority may permit the continued use of bath cubicles for the use of more than one person if the floor area provided in respect of each shower bath is not less than 1.12 square metres.

#### **6. Water for pithead baths :-**

(1) Water shall be provided at a pressure equivalent to a pithead of not less than 3.048 metres at the shower : Provided that where it is not possible to maintain the prescribed pressure due to water shortage, the competent authority may relax the standard as the circumstances require.

(2) When pit water is used, it shall be treated in the manner prescribed by the competent authority before use.

(3) Proper arrangements shall be made to the satisfaction of the competent authority for the drainage or disposal of used bath water.

#### **7. Lighting :-**

Every pithead bath shall remain open at all times during day and night and provision shall be made for lighting in the manner prescribed by the competent authority.

#### **8. Attendants :-**

(1) At every pithead bath the owner, agent or manager shall appoint a male attendant and a female attendant to supervise the pithead bath for men and women, respectively.

(2) Separate rooms shall also be provided close to the bathing cubicles, for the use of male and female attendants.

#### **9. Locker-rooms :-**

(1) Separate locker-rooms for clean and pit clothes shall be provided at each pithead with the prescribed type of locker installed for the use of each man and woman entitled to use the bath : Provided that until such time as the competent authority so directs in writing combined locker and waiting rooms of adequate size may be provided for men and women in lieu of separate locker rooms for clean and pit clothes.

(2) The owner, agent or manager of the mine shall be responsible for the adequate maintenance of locker-rooms and shall provide

suitable washing arrangements for pit clothes.

(3) Each person employed in a mine to whom a locker is allotted shall provide his own padlock and key therefor.

**10. Cleanliness :-**

All bath cubicles, locker-rooms, latrines and urinals shall be maintained at all times in a clean and sanitary condition.

**11. Supply of Soap and oil :-**

The owner, agent or manager of the mine shall make arrangements for the sale, at or near each pithead, of [soap and mustard oil, coconut oil or any such oil as may be specified by the competent authority at a price not exceeding the price paid by such owner, agent or manager.]

**12. Alternative bathing facilities :-**

The owner, agent or manager of every coal mine falling under any of categories referred to in Cl. (a) of rule 2 shall provide such bathing and washing facilities as may be prescribed by the competent authority.

**13. Authority empowered to inspect :-**

The competent authority shall be responsible for the inspection of the pithead baths and for ensuring that the provisions of these rules are complied with.

**14. Repeal :-**

The Coal Mines Pithead Bath Rules, 1956. are hereby repealed except as respects things done or omitted to be done.