

DGMS (Tech) SOMA Circular No.5 of 1999

Dated: 13.5.1999.

To
Owners, Agents & Managers
of All Coal Mines.

Sub: Charging and firing of explosives in a crack, i.e. in an improperly drilled, charged and stemmed shot hole.

Recently there had been an accident from a secondary blasting in an opencast mine. The enquiry revealed that about 62.5 kg. of explosives was placed in a crack measuring 7m by 4 m. and 0.25 m. in thickness without sufficient confinement in a toe of a dragline bench. The result was that a blasting projectile measuring 21 cm. x 21 cm. and 4 cm. in thickness and weighing about 4.5 kg. flew through a distance 330 m. and hit a person who had taken shelter beneath a tree, inflicting fatal injuries to him.

Your attention is drawn to the provisions of Reg. 168(1), which requires firing of shot in a properly drilled, charged and stemmed shot hole and Reg. 170(1) of the Coal Mines Regulations, 1957 read with DGMS (Tech) Circular No.8 of 1982 on taking proper shelter. Compliance of these mandatory provisions and circulars will go a long way in preventing such type of accidents.