

Ref: PILAP/HO/2020/421

Dated: 14 September, 2020

**The Secretary,
Ministry of Energy (Petroleum Division)
Room No. 302, 3rd Floor,
A Block, Pakistan Secretariat,
Islamabad**

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION UNDER THE RIGHT OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT, 2017

Dear Sir,

The Public Interest Law Association of Pakistan (PILAP) is a public interest association concerned with the primary objective of enabling the citizens of Pakistan to attain the realization of their civil, human, economic, social and political rights, as guaranteed by the Fundamental Rights laid down in the Constitution of Pakistan. PILAP addresses matters of public interest by means of advocacy and by seeking redress for the people of Pakistan through the justice system. It respectfully submits as under:

1. That the details of the authorized person on behalf of PILAP are as under: -
2. That PILAP seeks information on mine safety policies adopted by the Ministry in order to ensure the occupational health and safety of miners. In particular, we express concern over Pakistan's non-ratification of the International Labour Organisation's (ILO) Safety and Health in Mines Convention, 1995.
3. That in this respect attention is brought to the recent unfortunate accident at a marble mine in Mohmand Agency. At least twenty-two people were killed when large parts of the Ziarat marble mountain caved in. According to the Provincial Labour Minister thirty-four miners had been present at the site when the accident occurred. Seven miners are still missing at the time of submitted this application.
4. That this is by no means the first time such an unfortunate incident has occurred in the country's mining sector. Earlier this year, a similar accident occurred in Buner district where nine workers were killed and fourteen injured. Reports from labour welfare organisations, including the Pakistan Central Mines Labour Federation and

PUBLIC INTEREST LAW ASSOCIATION OF PAKISTAN

Plot # 18-C, 2nd Floor, Office # 202, Zamzama Lane # 2, Phase-5, DHA, Karachi.
Phone: +9221 32417049, +9221 32417087, +9221-35304110 Email: info@pilap.pk

the media suggest that each year hundreds of miners perish in mining accidents. These deaths are a result of outdated and under-regulated mining practices used by a majority of mining companies.

5. That, in light of the above, PILAP respectfully submits this Application requesting for information under the right granted to all citizens of Pakistan under the Right of Access to Information Act 2017 and Article 19A of the Constitution as under: -
 - i) What are the reasons for Pakistan's failure to ratify ILO's Safety and Health in Mines Convention, 1995 that outlines health and safety processes to be used in mining operations?
 - ii) What measures, if any, has the Ministry of Energy taken to recommend the ratification of the ILO Convention to the Federal Government?

6. That in the circumstances, PILAP would be grateful for a reply at the earliest.

Thank you.