



भारत सरकार/Govt. of India
श्रम एवं रोजगार मंत्रालय
Ministry of Labour & Employment
खान सुरक्षा महानिदेशालय
Directorate General of Mines Safety



No. DGMS Circular (Approval) No. 13 /Dhanbad, dated 04-06-, 2015

To

All Owners/Agents/ Managers of Coal, Metalliferous and Oil Mines and Manufacturers.

Subject: Standard properties of Protective/Safety Footwear for use in mines.

Protective/Safety Footwear of various types made of different materials are used in all mines to protect the wearer's feet and legs against foreseeable hazards in various working sectors. Approval of such footwear is accorded by this Directorate under Regulation 191 of the Coal Mines Regulations, 1957, Regulation 182 of the Metalliferous Mines Regulations, 1961 and Regulation 87 of the Oil Mines Regulations, 1984.

Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has standards regarding specifications and testing of various types of footwear.

Based on such standards, this Directorate has been according approvals of safety/protective footwear by issue of special order on case to case basis. Now, in order to bring further simplification in their approval, it has been decided that the subject matter may be brought under domain of general approval. However, in order to prevent any compromise on the quality and safety aspects, certain additional conditions are to be specified for compliance. In view of the above, the standards and parameters for manufacturing and use of protective/safety footwear mines are prescribed below:

1. General requirements for Protective/Safety : The specifications of Protective/Safety Footwear shall conform to the standards of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) or their revised version mentioned below:

(i) Protective Rubber Canvas Boots for Miners	IS 3976: 2003
(ii) Safety/Protective Rubber Ankle and Knee Boots	IS 5557:2004
(iii) Safety/Protective PVC Ankle and Knee Boots	IS 12254:1993
(iv) Leather Safety Boots and Shoes for Miners	IS 1989 (Part I): 1986
(v) Leather Safety Footwear having direct moulded rubber sole	IS 11226:1993
(vi) Specification for Safety Footwear	IS 15298 (Part 2): 2011
(vii) Specification for Protective Footwear	IS 15298 (Part 3): 2011

The manufacturers shall have a valid BIS Licence as per the above standards. In addition to the above, IS 15298 (Part 1): 2011 [Personal Protective Equipment- Part 1 –Test Methods for Footwear] may be referred, wherever applicable.

2. Testing: Samples of footwear shall be subjected to tests as specified in aforesaid standards or their revised versions at a laboratory/test house prescribed at Para 6.8 of the Approval Policy, 2015 of DGMS or its revised version and pass the tests as per the above standards mentioned at Para 1 and methods of testing wherever applicable shall be as per IS 15298 (Part 1) : 2011.

3. **Marking:** The footwear shall be marked with size, manufacturer's name/brand, safety or protective boot, designation(s) appropriate to the protection provided as given in the respective standards (wherever applicable), BIS standard, BIS Licence number and date of manufacture.

4. **Manufacturers' Responsibilities**

The manufacturer shall supply to the user(s), copies of such valid certificate(s), licences and test report(s) mentioned in the aforesaid para to facilitate use of the Protective/Safety Footwear manufactured by them.

5. **Users' Responsibilities**

- i As per applicability, the user may select suitable type of footwear indicated at Para 1.
- ii The manager of the mine where such footwear are being used shall maintain copies of valid certificate(s), licences and test report(s) mentioned in the aforesaid para.
- iii The user may visit the manufacturing facility of the footwear to assess quality issues.

6. **Miscellaneous**

- i. The Chief Inspector of Mines or an Inspector of Mines may inspect, check and examine the manufacturing facilities of the manufacturers of Protective/ Safety Footwear at any time and get samples tested during the course of inspection or send such samples for testing at any prescribed test houses/laboratories at the cost of the manufacturer.
- ii. The Chief Inspector of Mines or an Inspector of Mines may inspect, check and examine the Protective/ Safety Footwear at any time in the mine or the area of the mines and get samples tested during the course of inspection or send such samples for testing at any prescribed test houses/laboratories at the cost of the owner, agent or manager of the mine.
- iii. All Owners, Agents and Managers of mines, manufacturers and suppliers shall be required to comply with the above standards and any deviation or defects found in the product supplied or used in the mine, shall be brought to the notice of this Directorate.
- iv. The manufacturers, users and the test houses, who are engaged in testing of the Protective/Safety Footwear shall adhere to the above mentioned standards and parameters while manufacturing, testing and using them.
- v. The Protective/Safety Footwear conforming to the standards, parameters and testing as mentioned above in this circular shall be considered as approved by the Chief Inspector of Mines by this general order as provided under Regulation 191 of the Coal Mines Regulations, 1957, Regulation 182 of the Metalliferous Mines Regulations, 1961 and Regulation 87 of the Oil Mines Regulations, 1984.
- vi. The user shall consider the Protective/Safety Footwear of manufacturers having valid approvals under special order of DGMS at par with those who comply with the parameters and guidelines prescribed in this general order for use of Protective/Safety Footwear in mines.

This circular supersedes the DGMS Circular No. DGMS Circular (Approval) No.04 of 2014 dated 14.08.2014 regarding the use of footwear in coal, metalliferous and oil mines.


Director General of Mines Safety