
Death toll rises to 15 in central China colliery blast

Thursday, 26 Nov, 2009

Xinhua reported that the death toll from Sunday colliery blast in central China Hunan Province has risen to 15 as two more bodies were found Wednesday afternoon.

A municipal work safety official said the two bodies were lifted out of the mine shaft at about 5:40 PM at Guojiawan Coal Mine in Chenxi County in the city of Huaihua.

Rescue work concluded as all the trapped miners were either confirmed dead or rescued.

The mine has agreed to pay each family of the victims CNY 280,000 in compensation.

The Chenxi County government has ordered all the mines in the county to suspend production for safety checks. Altogether 33 people were working in the pit when the blast occurred at around 10 AM Sunday. A total of 14 people escaped and 19 were trapped.

Rescuers saved five people, but one of them died in hospital late Sunday.

(Sourced from Xinhua)

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