

The Activities of the State Labour Inspectorate in the Kurgan Region

Roznina N.V.*

Department of Accounting and Finance
Kurgan State Agricultural Academy named after T.S. Maltsev
Kurgan, Russia
e-mail: Rozninanina@mail.ru

Karpova M.V.

Department of Marketing and Agricultural Business
Organisation
Kurgan State Agricultural Academy named after T.S. Maltsev
Kurgan, Russia
e-mail: mdusheva@rambler.ru

Sokolova E.S.

Department of Power supply and radio telemechanics
Tyumen Higher Military Engineering Command School
Tyumen, Russia
e-mail: sok-evgenia@yandex.ru

Dunicheva S.G.

Department of Biology and veterinary science
Kurgan State Agricultural Academy named after T.S.
Maltsev
Kurgan, Russia
e-mail: sveta.karpova.1977@mail.ru

Schulgina A.V.

Department of Finance and Economic security, Institute of Economics and Law
Kurgan State University
Kurgan, Russia
e-mail: schulgina@yandex.ru

Abstract — The work describes the legislative acts in the sphere of labour which form the basis for the activities of the State Labour Inspectorate (SLI) in the Kurgan region. The article also describes the performance of SLI in the region between 2015 and 2019. We consider the number of inspections carried out by the SLI in all economic entities, the sums of administrative fines imposed and collected for abusing employment and labour laws, the change in the numbers of investigated work accidents. We also studied the types of work accidents that are common in the Kurgan region and carried out the analysis that showed the causes leading to work accidents of different severity.

Keywords — *work safety, State Labour Inspectorate, work accidents.*

I. INTRODUCTION

The State Labour Inspectorate (SLI) base its labour law enforcement activities on the provisions of the International Labour Organization Convention established in 1947. The convention was ratified by the Federal Law No. 58-FZ of April 14, 1998, the Constitution of the Russian Federation, the Code of Administrative Offences of the Russian Federation, the Federal Law No. 294-FZ of December 26, 2008 “On the rights of legal entities and sole proprietors during the implementation of state and municipal control”, the Provisions of the State Labour Inspectorate in the Kurgan region.

The SLI of the Kurgan region is formed by the Federal Labour and Employment Service order no. 174 of March 31, 2017 “On the approval of regulations about the local Federal Labour and Employment Service agency — the State Labour

Inspectorate in the Kurgan region.” The act states that the inspectorate is the local Federal Labour and Employment Service agency that performs state supervision of the implementation of labour law and other regulations, containing the norms of labour law in the Kurgan region. The act also describes the authority of the inspectorate in this sphere.

II. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Labour safety is a system that ensures the preservation of workers’ health and lives at the workplace. It includes legal, social, economic, organisational, technical, medical, preventive, sanitary, hygienic, rehabilitative, and other activities [8, 12]. The SLI in the Kurgan region regularly performs state supervision of the implementation of labour law and other regulations, containing the norms of labour law including those related to work safety [5, 13].

The performance of the SLI in the Kurgan region between 2015 and 2019 is represented in table 1.

The number of inspections carried out by the SLI in the Kurgan region decreased between 2015 and 2019 by 206 cases through the reduction of inspections in business entities by 168 cases and sole proprietors by 38 cases. This is partially due to a decrease in the total number of economic entities in the Kurgan region between 2015 and 2019. This number declines by 9.01 % or 3,168 entities because of the reduction in the number of sole proprietors by 2.47 % or 443 entities and business entities by 15.83 or 27.25 %.

In 2019 the SLI in the Kurgan region performed on-site and documentary inspections both planned and exceptional based on requests by workers, the information from state authorities, and notifications of work accidents in different economic entities of the region. The total number of these inspections reached 895 cases which is 206 cases less than in 2015. This is due to the reduction of planned inspections by 122 cases and inspections upon worker's request by 173 cases.

TABLE I. THE PERFORMANCE OF THE SLI IN THE KURGAN REGION

Indicator	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
The number of inspections in different legal entities, total	1,101	964	1,133	858	895
including sole proprietors	128	98	172	118	90
business entities	973	866	961	740	805
Grounds for inspections, total	1,101	964	1,133	858	895
including planned inspections	150	89	92	72	28
inspections for monitoring the execution of precepts that were issued during previous checks	7	4	42	40	86
upon requests by citizens	921	851	934	722	748
other grounds	23	20	65	24	33
The total number of decisions on imposing fines issued by the employees of the SLI	1,023	998	877	612	639
including those issued to officials	571	590	503	267	266
issued to sole proprietors	136	117	98	36	50
issued to business entities	316	291	276	309	323
The sum of administrative fines imposed, thousand roubles in total	16,156.6	18,471.5	18,009	19,212	20,579
including those imposed on officials	2,680.50	2,723.50	3,510.50	2,273.00	2,031.50
imposed on sole proprietors	540.50	614.50	463.5	180	203.00
imposed on business entities	12,960.9	15,133.3	14,035.0	16,759	18,345
The sum of administrative fines paid, thousand roubles in total	12,960.9	15,372.7	15,787.3	15,482.4	14,918.2

The total number of decisions on imposing fines issued by the employees of the SLI in 2019 reached 639 cases which is 384 cases less than in 2015. This is due to the reduction in the number of decisions issued to officials by 384 cases and sole proprietors by 86 cases. The total number of decisions on imposing fines issued by the employees of the SLI to business entities in the described period increased by 7 cases and reached 323 cases in 2019.

Despite the decrease in the total number of decisions on imposing fines between 2015 and 2019, the total sum of fines increased by 4422.37 thousand roubles and reached 20,579 thousand roubles in 2019. This is due to the increase in the number of fines imposed on business entities by 5,384.02 thousand roubles.

The sum of paid fines increased between 2015 and 2017 but then started to decline [10]. Between 2015 and 2019 the sum of paid administrative fines increased by 1,957.31 thousand roubles and reached 14,918.29 thousand roubles in 2019.

The percentage of paid fines for the total amount of fines in 2019 was 72.49 % which is 7.73 % less than in 2015.

According to the article 356 of the Labour Code of the Russian Federation, the SLI of the Kurgan region performs activities aimed at investigating work accidents in different economic entities of the region, determining the causes of work traumas, and developing measures for their prevention [4, 6].

For the described period, the number of work accidents in economic entities of the Kurgan region decreased both in terms of registered and investigated accidents.

The total number of registered and investigated cases in 2019 reached 20 cases which is 17 cases or 45.59% lower than in 2015 (Table 2). We should note the decrease in the number of severe and fatal accidents by 9 and 8 cases correspondingly.

TABLE II. THE NUMBER OF INVESTIGATED WORK ACCIDENTS IN THE KURGAN REGION

Indicator	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total number of investigated accidents	37	31	30	16	20
including group accidents	2	–	2	–	2
severe accidents	24	23	24	13	15
fatal accidents	11	8	4	3	3
The frequency coefficient of work accidents according to Kurganstat (Cf)	1.7	1.4	1.4	1.1	Data available in May 2020

In comparison with the 2015–2018 period, 2019 showed a significant decrease in work accidents by 25.37 % [11] of the total number of accidents with different categories including severe (by 24.24 %) and fatal (48.28 %). The number of group accidents in 2019 increased by 66.67 % in comparison to the period between 2015 and 2018.

The biggest share among all investigated work cases in the Kurgan region between 2015 and 2019 still belongs to severe cases. In the described period they account for 62.55 % (the highest value was in 2018 reaching 81.25 %). The average number of investigated fatal cases between 2015 and 2019 was 17.11 % (the highest value was in 2015 reaching 29.73 %) while for group cases it was 3.68% (the highest value was in 2018 reaching 10.0 %).

In 2019 the main causes of work accidents were:

- the inadequate organisation of work – 6 severe accidents, 1 fatal accident, 1 group accident (Table 3). This was the cause of 40 % of accidents that happened in 2019.
- other causes (wrongdoings of other persons, inadequate control over work safety) – 1 fatal accident, 4 severe accidents. This was the cause of 25 % of accidents in 2019.

In 2019 the number of accidents due to an inadequate organisation of work decreased from 10 to 8 accidents or by 20 %. At the same time, there is an increase in the number of accidents due to “other cases, determined during the investigation” from 1 to 5 cases or by 80 %.

The biggest number of work accidents in the Kurgan region happened due to inadequate organisation of work. In 2015 this was the cause of 21 accidents which is 13 accidents higher than in 2019. Other causes determined during investigation accounted for 10 accidents in 2015 and 5 accidents in 2019. We should note that such a cause as a violation of discipline appeared only in 2018.

The biggest share of all work accidents that happened in 2019 belongs to accidents due to an inadequate organisation of work — 40 %. The number of accidents that happened due to other reasons determined during the investigation is also high and accounts for 25 % (Fig. 1).

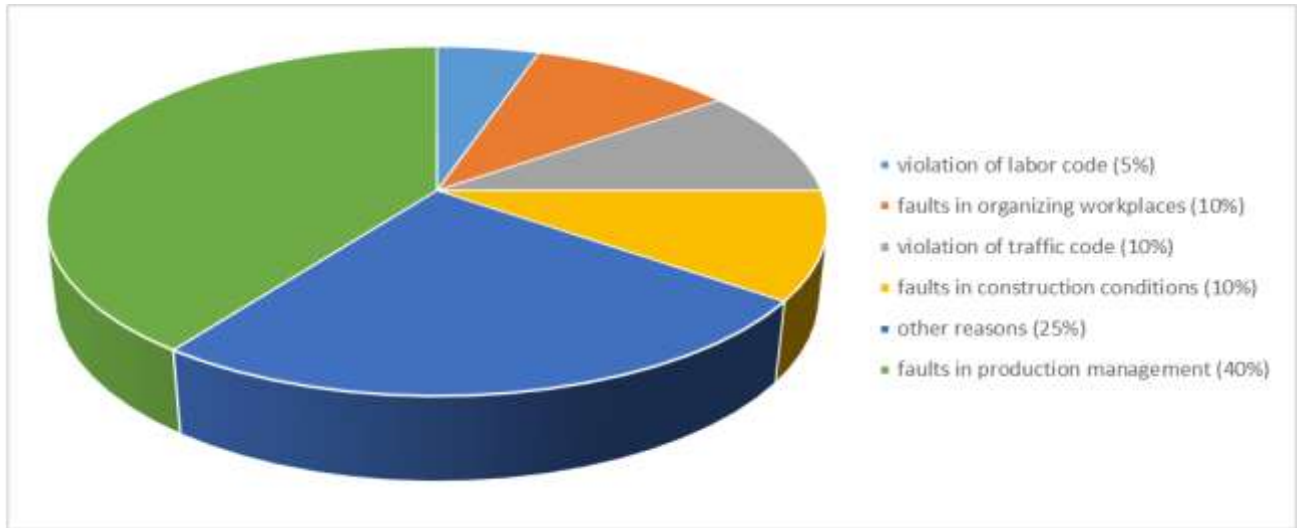


Fig. 1. The structure of causes for work accidents in economic entities of the Kurgan region for 2019, %

TABLE III. CHANGES IN THE CAUSES OF WORK ACCIDENTS BETWEEN 2018 AND 2019

Cause	2018			2019		
	group accidents	severe accidents	fatal accidents	group accidents	severe accidents	fatal accidents
Total in the Kurgan region including:	—	13	3	2	15	3
Inadequate technical conditions of buildings, facilities, or territory	—	1	—	—	2	—
Traffic violation	—	1	—	1	1	—
Inadequate organisation of work	—	9	1	1	6	1
Inadequate upkeep and organisation of workplaces	—	—	—	—	1	1
Violation of workplace discipline	—	1	2	—	1	—
including being drunk	—	—	1	—	—	—
Other causes determined during investigation	—	1	—	—	4	1

The types of work traumas investigated by the SLI in the Kurgan region in 2019 are the following (Table 5):

- fall from height — 2 fatal and 5 severe accidents accounting for 35 % of the total number of accidents in economic entities of the Kurgan region;
- the action of moving, rotating, flying parts, objects, or machinery, and entrapment between moving and immobile machines and parts — 5 severe accidents

accounting for 17.5 % of the total number of accidents in economic entities of the Kurgan region;

- wrongdoings of other persons — 2 severe and 1 fatal accidents accounting for 15 % of the total number of work accidents;
- traffic accidents — 1 group accident and 1 severe accident accounting for 10 % of the total number of work accidents;
- fall or collapse of objects, materials, land, etc. 1 severe accident accounting for 5 % of the total number of work accidents;
- electric shock — 1 group accident accounting for 5 % of the total number of work accidents;
- harm due to the contact with plants, animals, insects, or reptiles — 1 severe accident accounting for 5 % of the total number of work accidents;

TABLE IV. THE CAUSES OF WORK ACCIDENTS IN THE KURGAN REGION

Cause	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
The total number of accidents in the Kurgan region including:	37	31	30	16	20
Use of defective machinery, mechanisms, and equipment	2	1	1	-	-
Traffic violation	2	1	5	1	2
Inadequate organisation of work	21	17	10	10	8
Inadequate technical conditions of buildings, facilities, or territory	0	1	-	1	2
Inadequate upkeep and organisation of workplaces	-	2	1	-	2
Violation of workplace discipline	-	-	-	3	1
Giving a worker the task that doesn't match his or her skills	1	0	1	-	-
Negligence of personal protective equipment	0	2	1	-	-
Negligence of technological process	1	-	1	-	-
Design flaws	-	-	1	-	-
Other causes determined during investigation	10	7	9	1	5

TABLE V. TYPES OF ACCIDENTS IN ECONOMIC ENTITIES OF THE KURGAN REGION

Type of accident	2018			2019		
	<i>group accidents</i>	<i>severe accidents</i>	<i>fatal accidents</i>	<i>group accidents</i>	<i>severe accidents</i>	<i>fatal accidents</i>
The total number of accidents in the Kurgan region	0	13	3	2	15	3
Traffic accidents, total		1		1	1	
including ground transport		1		1	1	
Falling from height		1			5	2
Fall or collapse of objects, materials, land, etc.		2			1	
The action of moving, rotating, flying parts, objects, or machinery, etc.		7	3		5	
Fall of extraneous body		1				
Electric shock				1		
Impact of harmful substances						
Harm due to the contact with plants, animals, insects, or reptiles					1	
Harm due to wrongdoings of other persons		1			2	1

If we compare 2018 and 2019 we will see the increase in such severe accidents as falling from height – by 6 accidents or 80 % and harm due to wrongdoings of other persons – by 2 accidents or 33.3 %. We will also see that the number of traumas due to the action of moving, rotating, flying parts, objects, or machinery, etc. decreased by 5 accidents or 50 %. Their severity also decreased (no fatal accidents).

The most traumatic sectors of the economy in the Kurgan region are the processing and agricultural industries. In 2019 there were 3 and 7 severe work accidents in these sectors, which accounted for 50 % of their total number. We should also note that work accidents in the construction sector have the highest severity with 3 work accidents 2 of which were fatal.

In comparison to 2018, we did not find severe work accidents in such sectors as education, public administration, military safety, and welfare in 2019.

Also, between 2018 and 2019 there were no work accidents in the spheres of real estate and at the non-production facilities in such sectors as education and sectors providing other services.

III. CONCLUSION

The analysis of State Labour Inspectorate performance in the Kurgan region showed a slight decrease in main indicators of state supervision in the sphere of labour legislation due to a decline in the number of inspections by 206 cases between 2015 and 2019. The decline in inspections is explained by the lack of employees in the period between March and September 2019.

The data obtained in this research indicate that economic entities and their managers in the Kurgan region should cooperate with state authorities i.e. the State Labour Inspectorate and other local government bodies to decrease the number of work accidents in the region.

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