

Agitating mining workers want night shift scrapped

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BICHOLIM: Agitating mining workers met chief minister Laxmikant Parsekar on Friday along with speaker Anant Shet and submitted a memorandum of their demands including scrapping of the night shift until safety measures were adopted.

The mining agitation in Bicholim entered the fifth day as the mining company has not taken any initiative to fulfill the demand of its mining employees. Around 400 workers of the company have been agitating since Tuesday in protest against the "lackadaisical attitude" adopted by the company management in fulfilling the workers' demands.

The first demand of the workers is that the company should give recognition to their newly-appointed union leader Ajeetsingh Rane. Their second demand is that the company should stop suspending the workers by using a hire and fire policy and the third demand is that the company should adopt safety measures during the night shift and until then the night shift should be cancelled. On Thursday, the company put up a notice of 'No Work, No Pay' on Thursday due to which the workers were furious.

After meeting Parsekar, general secretary of the union, Balakhan Gori said that the chief minister assured them of taking up the matter. tnn