
Criminal investigation launched in explosion at Yuzhnaya coal mine in Sverdlovsk Region

On 17 January 2015, about 8:30 AM, law-enforcement bodies of the town of Kushva received a report that some explosives detonated at the Yuzhnaya mine while preparing it for explosive operations. According to preliminary information there are casualties, but the exact number is being established.

Sverdlovsk Region investigating bodies of the Russia's Investigative Committee have launched a criminal investigation in a crime under article 216 of the RF Penal Code (breach of safety rules during mining, constructing or other kinds of operations).

A reinforced regional investigating team composed of investigators and criminalists of the local investigations directorate set off for the scene.

At present investigators, Emergencies Ministry and police officers are carrying out all necessary operations. They are examining the accident scene, interrogating workers and managers of the mine, confiscating and analyzing documents related to the preparing for explosive operations.

The investigation is ongoing.

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