

**Accident in Dighwadih Colliery,  
Dhanbad**

\*545. { **Shri P. R. Chakraverti:**  
**Shri P. C. Borooh:**

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether some miners have been killed by the collapse of a roof of the Dighwadih Colliery, Dhanbad on the 8th August, 1962;

(b) if so, the number of casualties including deaths;

(c) the steps taken to give immediate relief to the affected families;

(d) the steps taken to hold enquiry into the nature of the incident and the causes that were accountable for it;

(e) whether it is a fact that similar accident had occurred in July, 1962, in another colliery in Dhanbad resulting in the death of six miners; and

(f) whether Government propose to set up a Special Committee to enquire into the causes of recurrences of such tragic incidents in the coalfields of Jharia and adopt rigid measures to prevent them?

**The Minister of Labour in the Ministry of Labour and Employment (Shri Hathi):** (a) and (b). There was an accident on the 7th August, 1962 in Dighwadih Colliery in which a shot-firer and a machine fitter were killed, and a mining sirdar and a coal-cutting machine driver, seriously injured.

(c) No recommendation for any special relief has been received so far.

(d) A Deputy Chief Inspector of Mines inquired into the accident soon after its occurrence.

(e) An accident occurred on the 19th July, 1962 in Sitanala Colliery in which six persons were killed, and one, injured.

(f) No. The circumstances do not warrant the setting up of such a Com-

mittee. Both the accidents might have been averted had the safety provisions contained in the Regulations, been fully observed.

**Out-of-Turn Allotment of Quarters**

\*546. **Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a change in the policy regarding out-of-turn allotment of residential quarters to Central Government employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of such allotments made since the introduction of the new policy and the grounds thereof?

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna):** (a) Yes.

(b) Previously allotment of residential accommodation on out-of-turn basis was made on various grounds. On 1st April, 1962, about 1400 such cases were awaiting allotment. Some of these cases were pending for 2 years or more. The whole question was, therefore, reviewed and it was decided that out-of-turn allotments should in future be made only on health grounds, such as the serious illness of the Government servant or his wife (or husband as the case may be) or the dependent child.

(c) 42.

**Total Production of Copper, Zinc, etc.**

1427. **Shri Sham Lal Saraf:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the present total production of Copper, Zinc, Nickel and aluminium within the country;

(b) its proportion to the entire requirements in the country; and

(c) by what time it is planned to attain self-sufficiency in these non-ferrous metals?