

**Coal Mines**

- \*500. { Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:  
Dr. Saradish Roy: ..  
Dr. Ranen Sen:  
Shri Sarkar Murmu:

Will the Minister of **Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of coal mines closed in the State of West Bengal since the declaration of Emergency; and

(b) the reasons for the closure?

**The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Two.

(b) One due to fire and the other due to financial difficulties.

**Model Legislation for Universities**

\*501. **Shri Esvara Reddy:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether model legislation for the administration of universities has been formulated; and

(b) if not, what are the main reasons for the delay?

**The Minister in Charge Ministry of Education (Shri Humayun Kabir):**

(a) No, Sir.

(b) The Committee set up for the purpose has not concluded its deliberations.

**Production of Children's Literature**

- \*502. { Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:  
Shri Bhakt Darshan:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme to promote production of children's literature in the country; and

(b) whether any impetus is proposed to be given to the writers for such ventures?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Education (Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran):** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Under the scheme of National Prize competition for children's literature, initiated in 1954, prizes of Rs. 1,000 are given to authors of best books for children in all Indian languages and Government purchases up to 2,000 copies of each prize winning book for distribution to schools.

**Oil Gas in Imphal**

- \*503. { Shri P. C. Borooah:  
Shri Raghunath Singh:  
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of **Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether highly combustible oil gas was found gushing out from a point in Imphal towards the end of May, 1963 where bridge posts were under construction; and

(b) whether proper prospecting of the area has been taken up, so as to locate gas reserves and to exploit the same?

**The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Combustible gas was found during the last week of May, 1963 in a well sunk for the construction of a bridge pier at Thumbuthong on the Imphal River.

(b) The gas seepage was examined and samples were collected and tested. Rocks exposed in the neighbouring area are under study in the Central Laboratory of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission. A proposal for detailed geological survey of the area is under consideration.

**विज्ञान अध्यापकों के लिए प्रकाश पाठ्यक्रम**

- \*५०४. { श्री श्रीकारलाल बेरवा :  
श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद :

क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग के संयोग से माध्यमिक