

judgment viz. after 5th December 1957.

(b) The services of 248 persons were terminated under the above rule from 5th December 1957 till the Supreme Court's judgment. Out of these, 210 applied for reinstatement, and orders of reinstatement were issued in respect of all the 210.

### Industrial Capacity

\*526. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which the industrial capacity in the country is being utilized at present; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to make full use of the same?

**The Minister of Industry (Shri D. Sanjivayya):** (a) In the case of major industries such as cement, sugar, paper, iron and steel, and certain items of electrical equipment such as motors and transformers, installed capacity is being utilised more or less fully. There are however, certain industries, mainly some of the newer engineering and chemical industries and those dependent on scarce imported raw materials such as non-ferrous metals or sulphur where current production is well below capacity.

(b) Several measures have been taken to enable greater utilisation of existing capacity. The more important ones are:

- (i) Provision of foreign exchange on the basis of full requirements for a six-monthly period in respect of 59 priority industries which account for nearly three-fourths of industrial production.
- (ii) Continued efforts to substitute imports by domestic production of raw materials, components and spares.
- (iii) Measures to assist exports with a view to improving the

availability of foreign exchange, so as to enable adequate foreign exchange provision for manufacturing industry.

### Coal Prices Study Group

\*527. **Shrimati Vimla Devi:** Will the Minister of Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received the Report of the Coal Prices Study Group;

(b) if so, the main recommendations made in the Report; and

(c) whether Government have accepted the recommendations?

**The Minister of Mines and Metals (Shri S. K. Dey):** (a) to (e). The Study Group has submitted its Report in respect of the West Bengal-Bihar coalfields. Its Report on the Outlying, Assam and Andhra Pradesh coalfields is still awaited.

The main recommendations made by the Study Group in respect of the West Bengal-Bihar coalfields are as under:—

- (i) an increase in price of 20 paise per tonne for all grades of coking coal (except grade HH) and all grades of non-coking coal (except grades II and III);
- (ii) an increase in price of 37 paise per tonne for all grades of coal both coking and non-coking, for a period of one year only to compensate the industry for payment of bonus in respect of the accounting year 1964 under the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965; and
- (iii) levy of a cess of Re. 1/- per tonne on all grades of coal to generate funds for financing additional investment in the coking coal sector.