

review the present methods of determination of reserves of coal in working collieries and virgin areas and to draw up a standard procedure for estimation of actual and potential reserves of coal and classification of the reserves quantitatively and qualitatively, fieldwise and regionwise.

This Committee has drawn up a tentative standard procedure and has invited the comments of eminent Mining Engineers and Geologists in the country. As soon as their comments are received, the Committee will finalise the revised procedure and thereafter take up the work of re-estimating the reserves of coal.

#### Coal Deposits in Garo Hills

\*1611. **Shri Liladhar Kotaki:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state the steps taken to exploit coal deposits of Garo Hills in Assam?

**The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh):** Drilling operations have been started by the Geological Survey of India to find out the potentialities of these coal deposits. The manner and method of exploitation will be determined by the drilling data, which will be compiled and analysed as soon as drilling operations are completed.

#### Scheduled Castes Research Students

\*1612. **Shri Wasnik:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of scholarship, money paid by Government to post-graduate research students belonging to the Scheduled Castes;

(b) whether any representations have been received from the Scheduled Castes students to increase the amount of scholarship money; and

(c) if so, the action Government have taken in view of the fact that other Ministeries are paying more scholarship money for conducting similar research work?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrivastava):** (a) to (c). A Statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 7.]

#### Missing I.A.F. Dakota

\*1613. { **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:**  
**Shri Bhadur Singh:**  
**Shri Kamal Singh:**

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether Dakota No. 918-A carrying four officers left Leh for Srinagar on the 8th May, 1957 but never reached the destination.

(b) whether any trace has since been found of the aircraft or any of its crews;

(c) whether any committee of enquiry was constituted;

(d) if so, what is its report;

(e) what are the conclusions reached by Government as to the probable causes of its loss and the ultimate fate of the aircraft or its occupants;

(f) if no enquiry has been instituted, what are the reasons for departure from the normal routine;

(g) whether Government will now institute an enquiry into the matter; and

(h) whether any compensation has been awarded or is proposed to be awarded to the heirs of the crew?

**The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon):** (a) IAF Dakota No. 918-A carrying four officers left Leh for Srinagar on 8th May 1957; but did not arrive at Srinagar. It is feared that the aircraft met with an accident.

(b) No.

(c) to (g). A Court of Enquiry was set up to enquire into the matter. The proceedings are still pending.