

ment the instructions of the Chief Inspector of Mines?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) 288.

(b) and (c). Enquiries were held into all these fatal accidents by the Department of Mines. The safety of all the operations carried on in mines is governed by the Mines Act, and the regulations, rules and bye-laws framed thereunder, which are quite comprehensive. Inspections were made to enforce these provisions and action taken against offenders. In the light of this, no question of lack of implementation of any instruction of the Chief Inspector of Mines arises.

Shri Vittal Rao: May I know the number of cases wherein prosecutions were launched against pit managers for dereliction of duty?

Shri V. V. Giri: There have been many prosecutions

Shri Vittal Rao: May I know in how many cases enquiries were conducted by visiting the actual place of accident underground and the number of cases where enquiry was conducted on the surface with the aid of maps?

Shri V. V. Giri: I would like to have notice.

Shri Raghavaiah: May I know whether these accidents are on the increase or on the decrease?

Shri V. V. Giri: I think, on the decrease.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Question—hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

TIS HAZARI TELEPHONE EXCHANGE

*716. **Shri K. G. Deshmukh:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) what is the initial capacity of providing telephone lines, of the new Telephone Exchange, opened in Old Delhi on the 24th January, 1953; and

(b) whether this new Telephone Exchange will fulfil the needs of the people from that area?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 2,900 lines; the capacity will be increased to 4,000 lines by the middle of the current year.

(b) Not fully.

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GORAKHPUR—THUTHIBARI RAILWAY LINE

*728. **Shri H. S. Prasad:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether the Railway Ministry have received a proposal from the Government of Uttar Pradesh for the opening of a Railway line from Gorakhpur to Thuthibari via Mahrajganj?

(b) If so, do Government propose to construct the said Railway line?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) The reply is in the affirmative.

(b) Not at present

ENFORCEMENT OF PROVIDENT FUND SCHEME

*729. **Shri K. Subrahmanyam:** (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state whether Government consider embroidery mills as part and parcel of the textile industry or not?

(b) Is it a fact that the only two embroidery mills in India are situated in Chheharta in Amritsar District?

(c) Is it a fact that both these mills have not enforced the Provident Fund Scheme despite the repeated demands of the workers?

(d) Is it also a fact that protests by workers to the Labour Commissioner did not also have any effect?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) Yes.

(b) No. In addition to the two embroidery mills situated in Chheharta in Amritsar District, there is also one embroidery mill at Delhi.

(c) No. It has been reported that Provident Fund schemes on the lines of the Employees' Provident Funds Scheme, 1952—but offering more liberal terms to the employees have been introduced in the embroidery mills at Chheharta and collection of provident fund contributions started from November, 1952.

(d) Does not arise.

TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATIONS IN CHITTORGARH DISTRICT

*730. **Shri U. M. Trivedi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state what steps have been taken to extend telegraphic communications in Chittorgarh District?

(b) Is it a fact that for people living in the sub-division of Begun the nearest telegraph office is at a distance of 50 miles?

(c) If so, what action do Government propose to take in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (c). Four telegraph offices are functioning in Chittoargarh District. Proposals for providing telegraph facilities at all the tehsil headquarters are under consideration.

(b) The nearest office is at Chittoargarh, which is 36 miles from Begun.

JUTE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

***731. Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the amount that is spent by the Jute Research Institute on researches in the year 1952;

(b) the nature of the researches it had pursued in 1952 and the quantum of success attained; and

(c) how far such researches have helped the growth of finer quality of jute to supplement import from Pakistan?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) The expenditure incurred by the Jute Research Institute during 1952-53 was as follows:—

Recurring ... Rs. 3,94,111

Non-Recurring ... Rs. 8,91,044 (including the construction of the Institute Building Staff quarters and Farm structures)

(b) and (c). During 1952 the Institute had been pursuing research on the following subjects:—

1. Breeding and Genetics of jute.
2. Cytogenetical investigations,
3. Physiological studies,
4. Jute agronomy,
5. Soil and Microbiological studies,
6. Diseases and pests,
7. Substitute fibres.

Research is by its nature a long-term process and the success attained during a particular year cannot be exactly assessed. However, during 1952, certain high yielding varieties which have been found to increase the fibre yield by 15 per cent. to 39 per cent. have been evolved. Useful results have also been achieved in indicating the methods that should be followed for achieving optimum increase of jute production by early sowing, row crop-

ping, utilisation of an improved jute seed drill, double-cropping and manuring with ammonium sulphate and potash. The Institute is also carrying out researches for evolving better varieties and is investigating the cultural, manurial, harvesting, steeping and retting practices calculated to improve the quality of jute.

REPRESENTATION FROM P. & T. WORKERS OF HYDERABAD

***732. Shri Sivamurthi Swami:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state how many of Post and Telegraph offices have been opened in Hyderabad State after the integration of Osmania Post Offices with the Central Posts and Telegraphs Department?

(b) Have any representations from the Posts and Telegraphs workers of Hyderabad State been received by Government regarding the increase in their scales of pay to the scales of pay of the employees of the Central Posts and Telegraphs Department and if so, what action has been taken?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 25]

(b) No.

ANTI-MALARIA CENTRES

510. Shri Bheekha Bhai: (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the answer given to supplementary question to Starred Question No. 51 asked on the 14th February, 1953 and state whether the State Governments have submitted the lists of centres for anti-malaria operations under the Indo-U. S. Project for control of malaria?

(b) Are the centres selected for anti-malaria operations the same where malaria incidence is the highest?

(c) What are the names of the centres selected by the State of Rajasthan?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) and (b). The information has been called for from the State Governments and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

(c) As already stated in reply to Starred Question No. 514 answered on 4th March 1953 Rajasthan is not participating in the Scheme.