

RESOLUTIONS OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL
OF HEALTH

*79. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state what steps have been taken to implement the resolutions of the Central Council of Health at Hyderabad in January 1953 in so far as they concerned the Central Government?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): A note explaining the position is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 16.]

ACCIDENT IN CHIRMIR COAL-FIELDS

*83. **Shri Amjad Ali:** (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state whether an accident had occurred in the Sajupahar Colliery in the Chirmir coal-fields of Sarguja district on the 15th May, 1953, resulting in the death of eight persons?

(b) What are the causes of the accident?

(c) Is it a fact that this is the third accident of its kind in recent months?

(d) What steps, if any, have been taken to prevent recurrence of such accidents?

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

(b) The accident was caused by the collapse of a mass of shale and stone roof, 47' x 10' x 4' in a rise and dip gallery, where ten persons were at work.

(c) Yes.

(d) The mine owner has been required to appoint a qualified assistant manager to assist the manager in order to ensure more effective supervision of work underground. Government have decided to set up a Court of Inquiry under section 24 of the Mines Act, 1952, to make an inquiry into the causes of and circumstances attending the accident of the 15th May 1953. Any further action will be based on the report of the Court of inquiry.

RAILWAY BOOKING OFFICES

*86. **Shri A. N. Vidyalkar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of privately managed booking offices in each of the Zonal Railways;

(b) the rate of commission given to them on each of the Railways;

(c) what are the costs of maintenance on the departmentally managed booking offices and on privately managed booking offices; and

(d) whether Government propose to raise the rate of commission in the cases of privately managed booking offices?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) There are no privately managed Booking Offices on the Central, North Eastern and Western Railways. The number of privately managed Booking Offices on the Eastern, Northern and Southern Railways is 7, 23 and 1 respectively.

(b) The rate of commission given to the contractors is 2½ per cent. on the total amount of local tickets and local portion of foreign tickets on the Eastern and Northern Railways and 6½ per cent. on the value of tickets sold on the Southern Railway.

(c) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as available.

(d) No.

SLEIGHS AND SKIS TRANSPORT

*87. **Shri A. N. Vidyalkar:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state.

(a) whether suggestions have been made recently to organise sleighs and skis transport to solve the transport problem of the snow-bound Himalayan heights in order to facilitate the transport of logs and timber wealth of these regions;

(b) whether a Swiss expert was invited recently to advise on this matter;