

श्रेष्ठ अचल सिंह : क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि दूध की मिकदार बढ़ाने के वास्ते क्या स्कीम है ?

श्री पी० एस० वरामुख : यह सब स्टेटमेंट में दिया हुआ है ।

CHIRIMIRI COAL MINES WORKERS

*193. **Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news item published by the "Free Press Journal" of Bombay dated the 3rd June, 1954 to the effect that living conditions of workers of the Chirimiri Coal Mines were very bad and the accommodation provided for them was inadequate and other amenities were also insufficient; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to redress these grievances?

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

(b) In order to encourage the building of houses by colliery owners, the Fund has offered a subsidy of 25 per cent. and a loan of 37½ per cent. of the cost of construction of houses according to approved plan. A grant-in-aid equal to eight pies per ton of coke or coal despatched is also being offered to those colliery owners who maintain dispensaries according to the standard prescribed by the Fund. The Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund has provided one radio set at each of the five Chirimiri collieries. A grant of Rs. 200 p.m. is being paid to one of the High Schools in the area. Two Miners' Institutes are under construction in the Korea Coalfields and it is proposed to construct one more Institute, it is also proposed to construct a regional hospital.

Shri Nanadas: May I know whose responsibility it is to provide housing accommodation for the labour? Is it the responsibility of the Government or that of the owners?

Shri V. V. Giri: It is the responsibility of the owners, and the Government has also tried to help them and encouraged them to build houses.

Shri P. C. Bose: May I know whether the Government are aware that, in spite of the offer of 25 per cent. of the cost of the buildings, most of the collieries are not taking advantage of it? What steps do Government propose to take in the matter?

Shri V. V. Giri: Government are aware of the fact and it is a matter to be considered.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know, Sir, if the amount earmarked for housing in the Labour Welfare Organisation to the credit of this colliery has been fully utilised so far?

Shri V. V. Giri: No, not yet.

EFFECTS OF SOLAR ECLIPSE

*194. **Shri Radha Raman:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about two years back many cases of total or partial blindness due to solar eclipse, were reported in the Gandhi Eye Hospital, Aligarh;

(b) if so, what further research and enquiry have been made in respect of the dangerous effect of eclipses on eyesight; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to educate the public on this subject?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Yes. 18 cases of partial or total blindness due to looking at the sun during a solar eclipse in 1952 were reported at the Gandhi Eye Hospital, Aligarh.

(b) No investigation or research is considered necessary. The damage to the eye is due to a burn on retina, which is a sensitive part of the eye.

(c) Wide publicity regarding the harmful effect of looking with bare eyes at the eclipse was given by the