

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** I do not admit that there is any waste on any account?

**HOUSING SCHEME FOR COAL MINES**

**447. Shri Jhulan Sinha (on behalf of Shri P. C. Bose):** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far achieved in building houses for the colliery workers both in public and private sectors of the coal mining industry under the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund; and

(b) the number of houses so far built or under construction under the Subsidised Housing Scheme of the above Fund?

**The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali):** (a) The Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund has constructed the following number of houses for colliery workers:—

Public sector	499
Private sector	1614
Total	2113

(b) The number of houses completed as on 31-10-54 was 1547 and the number of houses reported to be under construction on that date was 114.

**Shri Jhulan Sinha:** May I know what encouragement has been given to the workers' co-operatives for any such purpose?

**Shri Abid Ali:** Not through this Fund at present.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** May I know what percentage of coal miners have got houses?

**Shri Abid Ali:** We have taken a census of about 600 collieries. The number of workers employed is 3,17,551. The number of workers not residing at the collieries is 73,755.

The number of workers residing with their wives is 47,731. The number of workers residing with their wives and children is 78,000. The number of workers residing at the collieries without their wives and children is about one lakh and six thousand. The total of the last three categories comes to 2,32,129. The number of rooms available at the collieries is 1,14,918.

**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

**TRANSHIPMENT OF COMMODITIES FROM GHATS**

**\*438. Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that riverine (ghats) points in Bihar in the Ganges have to feed besides North Bihar, some districts in Uttar Pradesh, Assam and North Bengal also, so far as transhipment of coal, cement, iron and stone is concerned;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the total requirements of these articles for these areas are not fully met through these ghats; and

(c) the percentage of increase in the capacity of these ghats during the last five years?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) Yes, except Uttar Pradesh.

(b) Yes.

(c) There has been an overall increase by 17 per cent. since January 1950, in the total capacity of the three ghats put together to carry traffic.

**DROUGHT CONDITIONS IN STATES**

**\*442. Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States in which famine conditions are prevailing at present due to failure of rains; and

(b) what help has been given to them?