

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) Yes, some have returned to Calcutta.

(b) They have for the present been accommodated by the Government of West Bengal in the Accommodation Centre at Midnapore.

Collieries

*822. **Shri S.C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) the amount paid to collieries as assistance for stowing for safety and for conservation during 1955-56; and

(b) whether any colliery was punished for not observing the Coal Mines (Conservation and Safety) Act and Rules?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Production (Shri R. G. Dubey): (a) Stowing for safety: Rs. 61, 41,423/15/- Stowing for conservation: Nil.

(b) No.

P.&T. Employees (Hyderabad Circle)

*823. **Shri K.S. Rao:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 471 on the 30th July, 1956 and state:

(a) whether the fixation of *inter se* seniority of the ex-employees of the Hyderabad State in the Hyderabad Postal Circle *vis-a-vis* other Central Government employees has since been completed;

(b) when the same is likely to be finalised; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Not yet.

(b) By February, 1957. Efforts are, however, being made to complete it earlier.

(c) Final orders regarding fixation of seniority of the staff of the former Indian States taken over by the Government of India consequent on Federal Financial Integration have been issued only recently. It would take sometime to prepare combined circle gradation lists on the basis of these orders. The concerned authorities have been asked to finalise the case quickly.

Building Works of the Ministry of Communications

*825. **Shri Bheskha Bhai:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1683 on the 3rd September, 1956, and state:

(a) whether a Separate Division of C.P. W.D. solely for the construction programme of the Communications Ministry has started functioning; and

(b) if so, the number of buildings whose construction work has since been started?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):

(a) The works of the Ministry of Communications are not being handled by a single Division but all the Divisions of the C.P.W.D. handling those works have been brought under the control of one Additional Chief Engineer as against three prior to the new arrangement.

(b) 24 works have been started since the control has been unified under one Additional Chief Engineer.

Cost of Coal Production

*828. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** Will the Minister of Heavy Industries be pleased to state:

(a) the actual cost of production of coal per ton and the cost agreed to by the Tariff Commission with regard to the coal produced by the Tata and Indian Iron Companies from their own private collieries for the year 1954-55;

(b) whether it is the same in case of both the companies; and

(c) how does the cost per ton of the above-mentioned coal compare with the cost per ton of the same kind of coal produced in the neighbouring collieries?

The Minister of Trade (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (c) The Tariff Commission's report on the treatment of colliery block for purposes of determining the retention prices of steel was placed on the Table of the Sabha on 26th July 1955. The Government's resolution thereon, which deals *inter alia* with the cost of coal produced by steel companies was also placed on the Table of the Sabha along with this report. The average cost per ton of the coal produced by the Tata Iron and Steel Company Ltd. and the Indian Iron and Steel Company Ltd. was computed by the Tariff Commission at Rs. 20/4/- and Rs. 16/8/- respectively as compared to the cost of Rs. 15/4/- and Rs. 14/4/- per ton for the same coal, if purchased from market collieries.

N.E.F.A.

*832. **Shri Shivnanajappa:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a convoy carrying some senior officials of NEFA and other staff escorted by military personnel was ambushed on 25th October, 1956 by Naga gangsters on Angurimokokchung Road;

(b) if so, how many persons were killed by the gangsters; and

(c) other details of this incident?