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1995 (Upto Sept.)		
Panandhro Lignite Mine, Gujarat Mineral Development Corpn.	Kachchh	1
Ahmedabad Oil Project, Oil & Natural Gas Corpn. Ltd.	Ahmedabad	1
Adityana Limestone Mine, Sourashtra Cement & Chemical Industries Limited	Junagarh	1
Mehsana Project (Drilling) Oil Mine, Oil & Natural Gas Corpn. Ltd.	Mehsana	2
Ankleshwar Project Oil Mine, Oil & Natural Gas Corpn. Ltd.	Bharuch	1
Narmada Limestone Mine, Narmada Cement Co. Ltd.	Amreli	1

Provisions for safety of persons employed in mines and contained in the Mines Act, 1952 and the Rules and Regulations framed thereunder. The safety laws are constantly reviewed and amended from time to time. During 1990, the Coal Mines Regulations, 1957 were comprehensively amended. The Directorate-General of Mines Safety also issues guidelines in the form of circulars to the managements for improving safety measures. These provisions of laws are required to be complied with by the mine managements. The officers of the Directorate-General of Mines Safety inspect the mines periodically to oversee the status of compliance of the safety provisions, and to take action as provided for under the Mines Act, 1952 in case of default. Besides the legislative measures, the Government is promoting a number of other initiatives, such as

- (i) Conference on Safety in Mines;
- (ii) Self-regulation by management;
- (iii) Workers' participation in safety management;
- (iv) Tripartite and Bipartite reviews at various levels;
- (v) Training of work persons;
- (vi) Observance of safety weeks and safety campaigns;
- (vii) National Safety Awards.

In the mines under Public Sector and organised private sector, modern technology is used in extraction of minerals which reduces exposure of work persons to risk of injuries. However, the mines in unorganised private sector are mainly worked by manual means.

Modification in Banking Recruitment Boards

607. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to modify the existing system of Banking Recruitment Boards, set up in each State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether individual banks are proposed to be permitted to recruit the officers directly; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) to (d) There is no proposal under consideration of Govt. at present either to modify the existing system of Banking Service Recruitment Boards or to permit recruitment of officers directly by the banks. However, a committee has been set up by Reserve Bank of India under the Chairmanship of Shri D.R. Mehta to look into the various aspects related to recruitment methods and practices in the public sector banks. The Committee has not yet submitted its final report.

Voluntary Retirement Schemes

608. SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the voluntary retirement schemes are in force in various public sector undertakings;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes;

(c) the number of employees who accepted the voluntary retirement schemes in each public sector undertakings during the last one year;

(d) whether the Government propose to implement these schemes in other Government offices and other sectors; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTR OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b) A model scheme of voluntary retirement was formulated by the Bureau of public enterprises on 5.10.1988 for the Central public sector undertakings with the object of rationalising surplus manpower. According to the scheme,