

either through the stockyards or directly from the collieries. In case of any dislocation in supplies from the stockyards, allocation of soft coke directly on the collieries is increased. Soft coke is primarily moved to West Bengal by road but to augment supplies, Rail movement is also arranged from time to time.

**Areas declared unsafe for Habitation by Director General of Mines Safety**

722. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY :  
SHRI PURNA CHANDRA MALIK :

Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Director General of Mines Safety has declared the towns of Raniganj, Barkar, Kultu and Jameria and other 24 villages in the district of Burdwans as unsafe for habitation;

(b) if so, when the same declaration was made;

(c) the action taken by Government since then for safety and security of the people of the area; and

(d) the reasons for declaring these areas unsafe and who are responsible for such a situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c) Since 1950, Director General, Mines Safety has declared certain areas in the district of Burdwan as unsafe for habitation including those mentioned in the question. West Bengal Government under Act promulgated in October, 1979 prohibited construction in 25 areas which include Raniganj, Jameria etc.

(d) These areas have been declared unsafe because of :

1. Existence of old workings with full height extraction and wide galleries, multi seam and multi section workings at shallow depths.

2. Existence of developed seam extracted by the stowing.
3. Areas are standing over small coal pillars/stocks which may also be waterlogged.
4. Size of pillar left is not known because off set plans of abandoned workings are not available.
5. The feasibility of stabilisation of workings below these areas is not only difficult but its effectiveness is also doubtful.

**Jute production in Sixth Five Year Plan**

773. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of jute production in the Sixth Five Year Plan;

(b) the quantity of jute purchased by the Jute Corporation of India in the same period; and

(c) the reasons for not purchasing the full jute produced in the same period by the Jute Corporation of India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b) The quantity of raw jute/mesta produced in the country during Sixth Five Year Plan and the quantity of raw jute/mesta procured by Jute Corporation of India during the same period is as under :—

Year (July-June)	Production*	Quantity in lakh bales of 180 Kgs. each
		Procurement by JCI
1980-81	82.00	10.60
1981-82	74.00	17.61
1982-83	63.00	8.60
1983-84	66.00	8.39
1984-85	73.00	10.16

\* As estimated by trade/Industry/JCI.

(c) The JCI is primarily responsible for undertaking price support operation in the interest of jute growers i.e. it undertakes to purchase the entire quantity of raw jute offered to it at the minimum statutory price fixed by the Government. The JCI also undertakes commercial operation for meeting the requirements of NJMC Mills and State owned and cooperative mills on agency purchase terms and for private sector mills as and when they place tenders with it against guaranteed terms of payment.

#### Raw jute price ceiling

774. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided about raw jute price ceiling in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the jute producing States thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b) The Government fixed statutory maximum prices of different varieties and grades of raw jute, and mesta for delivery in Calcutta and various up-country markets in different jute and mesta growing States for a short period from 7th June to 15 July, 1985. Maximum price of W-5 grade of raw jute ex-other states at Calcutta was fixed at Rs. 600 per quintal and that of TD-5 grade of West Bengal origin at Rs. 595 per quintal. Price of W-5 grade of raw jute at up country markets in Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura was fixed at Rs. 488.50 per quintal. The fixation of maximum price was welcomed by Chief Minister of West Bengal at a meeting since jute was no longer with the growers at that time.

[Translation]

#### Check on export of Frogs

775. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether it is a fact that due to export of frogs and their legs due to which there is an acute shortage of frogs in the country resulting in adverse effect on the environment; and

(b) if so, the concrete steps taken by Government to check to the export of legs of frogs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) Live frogs are exported only on production of legal Procurement Certificate from the State Chief Wild Life Warden. There is no evidence to the effect that exports of frogs and froglegs result in the acute shortage of frogs in the country.

The various measures for conservation of resources taken by Government include banning of processing of froglegs during the 4 months of breeding season in a year, banning of export of froglegs of count more than 80 per Kg., classification of frogs as wildlife under Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and putting a ceiling on exports of froglegs from 1983-84 licencing year.

[English]

#### Unearthing of network of people indulging in conversion of money into foreign currency

776 SHRI SHARAD DIGHE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government recently found a network of people engaged in converting large sum of money into foreign currency and smuggling it abroad financing the training and arming of terrorists; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.