

Inability of Delhi Telephones Department to carry on maintenance work of underground cables due to paucity of Funds

6281. SHRI OM PRAKASH TYAGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether this press report is correct that the Delhi Telephones Department is not able to carry on the maintenance work of underground cables due to paucity of funds as a result of which telephone system is being affected; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government to this press report?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BRIJ LAL VERMA: (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Coal Permits by Coal India Limited and Eastern Coalfields to non-existent Cooperatives

6282 SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to a Report published in "Panagarh Varta" published from Panagarh Bazar, Savitri Place, Station Road, Panagarh, Distt. Bardwan, West Bengal in which factual reports have been published regarding giving coal-permits by the officers of Coal India and Eastern Coalfields to non-existent co-operatives;

(b) if so, facts thereabout; and

(c) steps taken against the officers who have indulged in corrupt practices in issuing coal permits to fictitious applicants?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) The news item in "Panagarh Varta"

has made certain allegations about the issue of permits for giving coal to non-existent cooperatives.

(b) The matter relates to later part of 1976-77 when coal was available in plenty. Accordingly, a liberal policy of issuing permits was adopted by the Eastern Coalfields Ltd. Coal was allocated to more than a thousand applicants including Co-operatives. No need was felt to check the *bonafides* of the applicants when coal was available in plenty. Most of such allocations were made from collieries which had plentiful stocks. Since April 1977 free sale of coal has been limited to collieries having large stocks of inferior grades of coal.

At the time of the adoption of liberalised policy for allocating coal, the stocks of coal at the pitheads had been mounting. Under such conditions it was not considered necessary to check the *bonafide* of each applicant

(c) Since the allocations were made according to the general policy of the Management, no action is contemplated against any one.

Corporation for Ayurvedic System of Medicine, U.P.

6283. SHRI SURENDRA BIKRAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Corporation for Ayurvedic system of medicine is proposed to be established in Uttar Pradesh in the near future and if so, when;

(b) whether Shahjahanpur is suitable place therefor; and

(c) the expenditure estimated to be incurred thereon and when the Corporation would start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAJ NARAIN): (b) Yes, necessary steps are being taken to complete the formalities for the formation of a Corporation in Public Sector under the

Companies' Act, 1956 for managing the Central Pharmacy of Indian Medicines at Ranikhet.

(b) A committee constituted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to consider feasibility of setting up of a Central Pharmacy, recommended the suitability for the establishment of the Corporation at Ranikhet.

(c) Rs. 10.00 lakhs to start with. The Corporation is expected to go into production by the end of this year.

.Enquiry into Kessurgarh Colliery Accident

6284. SHRI A. K. ROY: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Datt Commission enquiring into the accident in Kessurgarh Colliery on 9th August, 1975 held the Manager Sri J. P. Singh responsible for gross negligence of duty;

(b) whether while the ovenman, shot fired and Asst Manager have been penalised, the Manager is spared.

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) will Government review the "crime and punishment" during the emergency in all cases of mining accident where the enquiries were set up to do justice to the issue?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) Shri R. C. Dutt, who was the Court of Inquiry to enquire into the accident in the Kessurgarh colliery on the 9th August, 1975 held Shri J. P. Singh, Manager, responsible for negligence of duty.

(b) and (c). Action against Ovenman, Sirdar and Assistant Manager was taken by the management following their own Enquiry even before the Court of Inquiry gave its findings.

This action has been upheld by the Court. As regards the Manager, since the lapses on his part were of technical nature, he has been warned by the management.

(d) Of the six Courts of Inquiries set up by the Government of India in the Ministry of Labour under Section 24(1) of the Mines Act, 1952, to enquire into six serious accidents, four reports have so far been received. The question of taking further action under the Mines Act against persons held responsible in these reports is under examination.

Unauthorised use of Colouring Material in Grape Fanta

6285. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Coca Cola company for their Grape Fanta particularly, were using unauthorised colouring material;

(b) whether the erstwhile Government had been deliberately delaying their prosecution;

(c) whether prosecution was launched finally and if so, its final outcome;

(d) which are the other products like hydrogenated cooking oil (vanaspati) butter and other items of daily use produced by some monopoly houses and multinational corporations, which have been found to be adulterated/sub-standard etc.; and

(e) if so, how many prosecutions have been launched against such business firms during last five years; and fullest details in connection with adulterated cases of such cases for the said period?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAJ NARAIN): (a) to (c). A sample of Fanta Grape was lifted from the premises of M/s. Pure Drinks (Pvt.) Ltd., New Delhi, by the Food Inspector of