

a report regarding the accident which had taken place there;

(b) whether the Bhadua Coal Mine was being operated with the permission of the Central Government; and

(c) the details of the report submitted by the said team?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The mine was not being operated with the permission of the Central Government or Central Coalfields Ltd. However, illegal mining operations have been reported in these abandoned mines. Immediately on receipt of a report of this occurrence, a team of Senior Officers of Coal companies and the Directorate General of Mines Safety made a joint inspection. According to the joint inspection report, there was no evidence of any death, nor was there any odour emanating from the disturbed areas in the underground working to indicate any dead body which should have been

detected, particularly as the inspection was carried out after about 52 hours of the occurrence.

Quantity of coal sanctioned for Himachal Pradesh

9089. **SHRI KRISHAN DATT SULTANPURI:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of Coal that has been sanctioned for Himachal Pradesh;

(b) the quantity of Coal sanctioned for the State for industries during the last three years; and

(c) the number of permits for coal granted in 1980-81 and whether details in this regard will be laid on the Table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) and (b). The quantity of coal to be moved by rail to different States is determined by the Railways. The upper ceiling limits fixed by Railways for sponsoring coal and coke for Himachal Pradesh during 1979, 1980 and 1981 are shown below:

	(Four wheeler wagons/day)		
	1979	1980	1981
1. Industrial consumers under State Priority	88	88	88
2. SSI/priority	50	50	50
3. BRK/RC	38
4. Soft coke	150	150	150
5. Hard coke	50	50	70
	338	338	396

The actual despatches against the above mentioned quota depends on the availability of wagons for movement of the coal. The coal companies also offer coal by road against shortfalls in rail despatches.

(c) Coal, other than coking coal used for metallurgical purposes, being de-controlled there is no question of issue

of permits. Coal companies do not also maintain details regarding the number of consumers to whom coal has been released.

Closure of Alkali and Chemicals Corporation of India Limited

9091. **SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM,