

**Closure of East Baraboni Colliery,
Jamuria, Asansol**

556. **SHRI MADHURYYA HAI DER :**
Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRAM AUR PUNARVAS MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the recent closure of East Baraboni Colliery, Jamuria, Asansol ;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same ;

(c) the total number of workers rendered jobless;

(d) whether any steps have been taken by Government to reopen the closed colliery; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRAM AUR PUNARVAS MANTRI) (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) (a) Yes.

(b) Non-availability of working faces and exhaustion of coal.

(c) About 600.

(d) No.

(e) An industrial dispute was raised over the closure of the Colliery before the Assistant Labour Commissioner (Central) on the 30th March, 1971. It was withdrawn by the Union for mutual discussion. Subsequently, the parties mutually discussed and arrived at a bipartite settlement on the 13th April, 1971 providing for the payment of legal dues and compensation under the Labour Laws and also an ex-gratia amount of Rs. 25/- per head to each of the workers, whose services were terminated due to closure of the Colliery. These payments have been made.

Supply of Coal to New Steel Plants

557. **SHRI INDER J. MALHOTRA :**
Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES (ISPAT AUR KHAN MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether the study team appointed to study the problem of coal supplied to new Steel Plants at Visakhapatnam and Hospet by Government has since submitted its report to Government ;

(b) if so, the recommendation made by the study team ; and

(c) the decision taken by Government on these recommendations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (ISPAT AUR KHAN MANTRALAYA MEN RAJYA MANTRI) (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) (a) The Committee on Coal appointed in June, 1970 to study the problem of coal supplies to the proposed integrated steel plants at Visakhapatnam and Hospet submitted its Report in August 1970.

(b) The Committee's Report indicated that the requirement of coking coals both for the Visakhapatnam and Hospet Plants can be met from indigenous sources, that the railway transport facilities are largely available, and to the extent that they are not, they can be developed. However, taking note of the limited reserves, rising ash content, additional investments required on mining, washeries and transport, the Committee also suggested that the economics of importing low ash coking coals and using them in blend with indigenous coals in the new steel plants should be examined by the Consultants and their views incorporated in the Feasibility Reports.

(c) Government have accepted, in principle, the recommendations made by the Coal Committee.

Responsibility of Quality Inspectors of Food Corporation of India for fall in Price of Bajra in Rajasthan

558. **SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE (KRISHI MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was a steep fall in the price of Bajra in Rajasthan during the last procurement season ;