

increasing the output of the mine, the Committee has proposed that this be done in two stages :

- (1) to increase the output to 4.5 million tonnes of lignite per annum by procuring essential additional equipment;
- (2) to increase the output from 4.5 to 6.3 million tonnes of lignite per annum by procuring additional/replacement excavators of higher capacity and other equipment after getting a detailed Project Report prepared.

The recommendations of the Committee are being examined by the Government for immediate action. The Board of Directors of N. L. C. have already been directed to examine and implement the recommendations which are within the powers of the Board. The Board has approved immediate action to be taken for the procurement of certain items of equipment like Mobile Transfer Conveyors, blasthole drills, pipe layers etc. When these additional items of equipment are in position, it is expected that the output of lignite would increase in about two years to 4.5 million tonnes per year, taking into account the higher over-burden lignite ratio that is obtaining now.

As recommended by the Committee a working group is being constituted to draw out a Detailed Project Report for expanding the output of the mine to 6.3 million tonnes of lignite per year.

Retired Government Servants Working as Indian High Commissioners/Ambassadors

6548. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the total number of retired Government servants working as India's High Commissioners and Ambassadors in other countries ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURLINDRA PAL SINGH) : Six Sir.

Utilisation Survey and Research in Mining field of Palamau (Bihar)

6549 : KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state the steps taken by Government for utilization survey and research in the mining field of Palamau (Bihar) since the declaration of the District as most backward ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Scientific Development of Coking Coal Mines

6550. SHRI AWDHESH CHANDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of managements of the Coking Coal Mines which have developed their mines scientifically ;

(b) the names of the Coking Coal mines which have been scientifically explored, developed and have vast reserves ready for immediate exploitation; and

(c) how Government propose to encourage scientific development in respect of non-coking coal mines owned by such owners ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b) At this stage it is not possible to state categorically which particular mines in Jharia have been developed in a scientific manner, as intensive study is in progress of the extent of working of each mine in each seam and the reserves that can be taken up for immediate exploitation. This study is in connection with the drawing up of proposal for reorganisation and reconstruction of the Coking Coal Mines and this is expected to be completed by the end of this year.

(c) under the Coal Mines (Conservation, Safety and Development) Act, 1952, the Coal Board is enjoined with the responsibility to see that coal mines are opened and

worked in a scientific manner keeping in view the main objective of rational development including conservation and safety. In addition, the field officers of the Coal Controller's Organisation as well as the Coal Board inspect the mines periodically and advise the managements.

मध्य प्रदेश में कपड़ा मिलों में श्रमिकों से बहुत ज्यादा काम लिया जाना

6551. श्री फूलचन्द वर्मा : क्या श्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या श्रमिकों द्वारा विरोध प्रकट किये जाने के बावजूद, मध्य प्रदेश में बहुत सी कपड़ा मिलों में श्रमिकों से बहुत ज्यादा काम लेने की पद्धति को तीव्र कर दिया गया है;

(ख) क्या उपरोक्त पद्धति लागू करने और अत्यधिक कार्यभार, जिसका उनके स्वास्थ्य पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव पड़ रहा है, के कारण श्रमिकों में बहुत अमतीय व्याप्त है;

(ग) क्या इसके परिणामस्वरूप राज्य में पाँच हजार श्रमिक बेरोजगार हो गये हैं तथा दस हजार और श्रमिकों के बेरोजगार हो जाने की सम्भावना है; और

(घ) क्या श्रमिकों ने उनका ध्यान भी इस ओर आकर्षित किया है और यदि हाँ, तो सरकार ने इस बारे में क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

श्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री (श्री आर० के० खाडिलकर) : (क) से (ग). यह मामला राज्य के क्षेत्राधिकार में आता है। श्रम और रोजगार विभाग के पास इन मामलों के संबंध में कोई सूचना नहीं है।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Labour Conditions in Circus Industry

6552 SHRI K. KODANDA RAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Labour Bureau has con-

ducted any survey of labour conditions in the Circus industry in India; and

(b) if so, the important findings in the report ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) Yes.

(b) Copies of the Report on the Survey of Labour Conditions in Circus Industry in India are available in the Parliament Library.

Bonus Dispute of Kanpur Textile Workers

6553. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bonus dispute of Textile Workers of Kanpur has been referred to him for arbitration; and

(b) if so, whether he would give hearing to the various trade unions who jointly conducted the strike for 27 days in March/April, 1972 in two Textile Mills in Kanpur ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) (a) and (b) The parties to the dispute have agreed to refer the matter to the arbitration of the Union Labour Minister. In doing so, they did not consult nor obtain the concurrence of the Union Labour Minister. The matter is now under the consideration of the Union Labour Minister.

Deposits of Ruby Stones in Himachal Pradesh

6554. SHRI K. KODANDA RAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether deposits of ruby stones have been discovered in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the total quantity of deposits found there, and

(c) whether Government propose to take over these deposits ?