

(b) the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes employees out of the above ; and

(c) the number of posts, category-wise, referred to him to convert the same into general vacancies in the last three years for want of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes candidates ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) to (c). The required information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha in due course.

Conversion of Reserved Vacancies into General Vacancies in Ministry of External Affairs

1621. SHRI AMBESH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of posts in Class I, II, III and IV services in Ministry of External Affairs referred to him to convert the same, category-wise, into general vacancies in the last three years for want of Scheduled Tribe candidates ; and

(b) the posts out of the above exempted by the Union Public Service Commission Consultation Exemption Regulations, 1958 for direct recruitment ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Nil.

(b) Does not arise.

Lack of Safety Precautions in Coal Mines in Bihar

1622. SHRI R. N. SHARMA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any reports from the Central Government's Officers-in-charge of Mining Safety about the lack of Safety precautions in mines in Bihar run by private individuals ;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon ; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to call for reports therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). As required under subsection (5) of Section 22 of the Mines Act, 1952, the Director General of Mines Safety has been sending from time to time, copies of notices issued by him under Sections 22(1), 22(1A) and 22(3) of the Act indicating to the concerned managements for rectifications of the serious defects and contravention of Coal Mines Regulations by mines, which include coal mines in Bihar owned by private individuals also. Follow up action in respect of such matters is taken by the Director General of Mines Safety.

(c) Does not arise.

Cases of Violation of Mines Act in Coal Mines in Bihar

1623. SHRI R. N. SHARMA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of violations of Mines Act in Coal Mines of Bihar which have come to the notice of Government during 1971-72 ;

(b) the number of prosecutions launched and the outcome thereof ; and

(c) whether any other action has also been taken in the matter ; if so, the nature thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) 23,986 violations of the Mines Act, 1952 were detected during 1971-72.

(b) For serious violations, 44 cases were filed during 1971-72 out of which 40 cases are pending, two ended in conviction and two in acquittal.

(c) For dangerous conditions in mines 27 orders prohibiting working in mines under Section 22(3) of the Mines Act and for protective measures 23 and 7 orders respectively under Sections 22(1) and 22(1)(A) of the Act were also issued during the period.

Working Conditions in Krdha and Jharkand Coal Mines of Bihar

1626. SHRI R. N. SHARMA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION