(c) whether the Central trade union organisations have been consulted on the proposed bill, and if so, their reaction to the proposed bill?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): (a) to (c). Government have not yet brought forward a new bill on industrial relations.

C'osure of coking coal mines taken over by Government

3503. SHRI S. A. MURUGANAN-THAM: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 40 out of 214 coking coal n.ines taken over by Government have been closed down,
- (b) if so, the reasons for their closure; and
- (c) the steps taken to reopen the closed mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) to (c). No mine has been closed down by Bharat Coking Coal Limited.

At the time of the take-over of the 214 coking coal mines, 43 collieries were not working. The feasibility of re-opening the closed collieries is being studied in the context of the reorganisation of the coking coal mines.

Violation of cease fire lines by Pakistan after December, 1971 War

3510. SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of violations of cease fire lines on the Western Sector by Pakistan Forces since the cease-fire after December War;
- (b) whether Government are aware of any alarming increase in such violation₃ of cease-fire lines; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) Between 18th December 1971 and 29th November 1972 Pakistani forces have committed a total of 1841 cease fire violations.

(b) and (c). There has been no recent increase in cease fire violations to warrant our concern. Our security forces have instructions to take firm action in this regard.

Settlement of Families of Ex-servicemen of Punjab in Nicobar Island

3511. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of families of exservicemen from Punjab settled in Nicobar Islands;
- (b) the facilities provided to these families; and
- (c) the future programme for the settlement of ex-servicemen from Punjab in the Campbell Bay (Great Nicobar)?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) and (b). Attention in this connection is invited to the statement attached in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3429 answered on 25th August 1972.

(c) A scheme is under consideration to induct 1,000 additional families of ex-servicemen in the Islands during the Fourth Five Year Plan period. Families will be selected, depending on the response from all States/Union Territories according to the number of ex-servicemen belonging to them.