

(b) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

Action against Management of Surda Copper Mine

5260. SHRI SWARAN SINGH SOKHI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to refer to the statement laid on the Table of the House on the 24th November, 1972 in fulfilment of the Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 4163 on the 27th April, 1972 regarding the collapse of Surda Copper Mines in District Singhbhum (Bihar) and state the action Government propose to take against the management of the mine?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL & MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): The Director General of Mines Safety who conducted the enquiry has stated that the accident had been considered to be the cumulative effect of various errors of judgement. Management appears to have acted in good faith and consequently no body had been individually considered responsible. No action is therefore, contemplated against the management for this accident. Management however, have been directed to make arrangements for filling the voids at an early date.

Application of Industries (Development & Regulation) Act on Coal Mines

5261. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Industries (Development Regulations) Act does not apply to the coal-mines which have been registered under the Act without maintaining specific production capacity/capacities;

(b) whether they can produce unlimited quantities of coalcoke;

(c) if not, the exact policies/regulations governing their production;

(d) whether there are such mines in Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat and Maharashtra; and

(e) if so, their names and their productions in 1971?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) No, Sir. The Act applies to all coal mines whether registered or licensed under the Act.

(b) and (c) Industrial undertakings including coal mines which have been registered or in respect of which a licence or permission has been issued are required under Section 13(1)(d) of the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951, to obtain a licence before effecting substantial expansion of the undertaking.

(d) and (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

Retirement Age of Lieutenant Colonel of Territorial Army

5262. SHRI E. R. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state the age at which the Lieutenant Colonels in the Territorial Army holding staff appointments are retired?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): All Territorial Army Officers holding the substantive rank of Lieutenant Colonel are retired on attaining the age of 52 years, except those belonging to the Army Medical Corps (TA), in whose case the retirement age is 57 years.

Requirement of Minimum Service for Posting to N.C.C. Unit

5263. SHRI E. R. KRISHNAN Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of years of minimum service which a Territorial Army Officer must put in before he qualifies for being posted to a N.C.C. Unit; and

(b) the criteria adopted in the case of a regular Army Officer who is posted to N.C.C. Units?