

(c) whether any inquiry has been instituted and if so, the conclusions arrived at by such an inquiry; and

(d) whether similar accidents have occurred in Bokaro Steel Plant in the past also and if so, a brief account thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN):** (a) and

(b). There has been no major explosion in the Bokaro Steel Plant. However, on 27th November, 1972 there was some leakage of Blast Furnace gas through a valve in the Gas Cleaning Plant which affected twenty-eight employees in an adjacent area. One of them succumbed to the effect of the gas. Of the remaining twenty-seven, twenty-five have been discharged from the hospital after treatment. Two are still confined to the hospital for rest and observation. There has been no damage to property.

(c) A high powered Committee has been appointed by Bokaro Steel Ltd., to enquire into the causes of the accident. Its report is awaited.

(d) No, Sir.

**Compensation to share holders of Mines taken over by Government**

**5275. SHRI R. N. SHARMA:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Shareholders' Association have represented to Government about the compensation in respect of the mines taken over or nationalised in the years 1971-72;

(b) if so, the names of the Associations and the mines and the dates on which representations were received; and

(c) Government's reaction to these representations?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN):** (a) and (b). Some shareholders of M/s. Shethia Mining and Manufacturing Company

whose New Dharmaband coking coal mine was taken over had represented that the amount payable to the company under the Coking Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1972, was not adequate.

(c) The amount of compensation payable in respect of each coking coal mine/coke oven plant which was taken over by Government has been specified in the Act of Parliament.

**Territorial Army Decoration Presented to Territorial Army Officer by the Army Chief**

**5276. SHRI E. R. KRISHNAN:** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Territorial Army decoration was presented to a Territorial Army officer by the Chief of the Army Staff; and

(b) the number of officers who have been awarded these decorations but the same have not been presented to them at the ceremonial parade?

**THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 57 T.A. officers have been awarded T.A. decorations so far. Out of these, the decorations have already been presented to 8 officers by the Chief of the Army Staff, and the rest are yet to be presented. Army Headquarters are now considering the question of presentation of this decoration to the remaining 49 T.A. officers either by the Chief of Army Staff or by the Governors/Heads of States at ceremonial parades.

**Meeting of Representative of U.N. Secretary-General with President of Uganda on Explosion of Asians**

**5277. SHRI ARVIND NETAM:** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether U.N. Secretary-General's representative, Dr. Robert Gardner dis-