

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES  
(SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) Production figures are given below:—

Name of Colliery	(In tonnes)		
	1960	1961	1971
Hindusthan Lalpeth . . . . .	100493	105137	176505
Ballarpur . . . . .	148485	151189	169304
Sasti . . . . .	145613	140369	121249
Ghughus . . . . .	185631	183488	308022
New Majri . . . . .	35491	43270	234444

(b) Highest monthly production also indicated here:—

	(In tonnes)		
	1970	1971	1972
Hindusthan Lalpeth . Dec.	16191	Mar. 15774	Apr. 17317
Ballarpur . . . . . Jan.	24717	Dec. 18483	Jun. 20183
Sasti . . . . . Dec.	14227	Sep. 12270	Mar. 14051
Ghughus . . . . . Dec.	44801	Dec. 30409	Jul. 40137
New Majri . . . . . Dec.	21353	Jan. 25630	Jun. 18327

(c) Yes Sir. New Majri Colliery was not a participant in the IBRD credit scheme.

**News regarding 'New Dharmaband Finds' in Indian Workers**

2428. SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news appearing in the "INDIAN WORKER"-Special Independence Issues under the caption "New Dharmaband Finds";

(b) whether the particulars stated therein are based on facts; and

(c) if not, the factual position regarding the value of the colliery and its ready reserves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) The item in question has been printed as an advertisement in the Indian Worker Independence Silver Jubilee Number 1972.

(b) The particulars therein have apparently been put out by the previous owners of the New Dharmaband Colliery and are not wholly based on facts.

(c) The coking coal of this colliery is partly of grade 'G' and partly of Grade 'HH'. There is no scope for employment of more workers in this colliery. The gross reserves of the colliery are estimated at about 46 million tonnes of which about 27 million tonnes are considered extractable. The previous owners are entitled to receive a sum of Rs. 12.65 lakhs as specified in the First Schedule

of the Coking Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1972. Information about the pre-tax profits and sales turn over of the colliery are not readily available.

#### Reopening of Closed Mines in Maharashtra

2429. SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is application for reopening of closed mines in State of Maharashtra; if so, the names of the mines, the number of years they were closed, the name of the owners;

(b) whether they are companies in joint sector; and

(c) whether those Companies are registered in recognised Stock Exchange or they are closely held Companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). The Coal Board has received an application for reopening of Rajur Colliery (formerly known as Kucas Colliery) in Maharashtra State, which is lying closed since 1957, from the present holder of the mining lease, M/s. Rajkumar Mining and Agency (P) Ltd. The company is not in the Joint Sector.

The Maharashtra Government have also received an application in the form of a Memorandum of a scheme for exploitation of the closed Mahakali Mine from the New Mahakali Coal Mines Workers' Cooperative Society Ltd., Chandrapur. The Colliery has been closed since September, 1966. The company holding the mining lease, Sri Mahakali Coal Mines (P) Ltd., has been directed to be wound up under the orders of the Calcutta High Court and an official liquidator has been appointed. The Company is not under Joint Sector.

(c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of House.

#### Mortgaging of Assets to Financial Institutions Under the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960.

2430. SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1763 on the 10th June, 1971 regarding Mortgaging of assets to Financial Institutions under the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 and state:

(a) whether this question had come up before the Mineral Advisory Body in 1970 and 1972;

(b) if so, the exact recommendation of MAB and Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. This question came up before the Mineral Advisory Board in 1970 and 1972

(b) In both the meetings of the Mineral Advisory Board, no specific recommendations were made.

(c) For the purpose of financing the mining industry a special cell and a committee have been constituted by the Industrial Development Bank of India. The proposals of the committee have been referred to the State Governments for their comments.

#### Exploitation of Mining Resources in Kerala

2431. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that very large portion of the natural resources of Kerala will remain unutilised for the coming several years at the present rate of exploitation;