

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) and (b). The steps taken to increase the production of coal include intensive working of the open-cast mines, and the mechanised underground mines, timely procurement of the needed equipments for replacement, rationalisation and re-organisation of mines, coordinating transport facilities including centralisation of loading ensuring uninterrupted power supply, expansion of existing mines, arrangements for adequate supply of iron and steel, explosives, and other materials.

As a result, the production of coal which was 78 million tonnes during 1973-74 is expected to increase appreciably during 1974-75.

(c) In addition to the steps already taken to improve coal production, a number of new mines are being developed and advance action is being taken for projecting more mines to sustain the demand on a continuing basis.

Alleged Persecution of Christians in Arunachal Pradesh

3079. **SHRI SANGLIANA:**
SHRI K. MARAK:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations from the Christians of Subansiri district of Arunachal Pradesh and from the Field Coordinator, Baptist General Conference North Bank Mission, Tezpur, and from the President, North East Indian Christian Council Shillong, alleging persecution of Christians in Arunachal Pradesh and seeking protection of the Government for them; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI OM MEHTA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. According to information received from the Arunachal Pradesh Administration following tension between the Christian and non-Christian groups of people in the Sagalee area of subansiri district, a few clashes took place during April, 1974 and a few thatched houses were also burnt. Appropriate action was taken by the authorities concerned to maintain law and order and to provide relief to the affected persons. The situation in the area is reported to be peaceful.

Distribution of Raw Material to Small Scale Industries

3080 **SHRI HEMENDRA SINGH BANERA:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to faulty distribution of indigenous raw material manufactured in the private sector, small scale industries in the country are facing economic crisis and are forced to close their units; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures proposed to be taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) and (b). There are certain items which are being produced in the private sector and are controlled by the Govt. In such cases distribution among the States is made by the Development Commissioner, Small Scale Industries and the State Directors of Industries in turn distribute these raw materials among the small scale units. In respect of items which are not subject to any control no such arrangements exist. However, it has been the endeavour of the Government to mitigate the difficulties