

Accident at Junawani Manganese Mines

*281. **Shri Indrajit Gupta:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether an accident involving death of five workers took place at the Junawani manganese mines near Nagpur on the 1st June, 1963;

(b) whether responsibility for the mishap has been ascertained by inquiry; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government in the matter?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour and Employment (Shri R. K. Malviya): (a) and (b). Yes. In this connection I invite attention to the detailed report of the accident placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha on the 19th August, 1963.

(c) Prosecution is being launched against the owner, contractor, agent, manager and supervisory staff for contravention of the provisions of the Metalliferous Mines Regulations, 1961 which resulted in the accident.

Raid by Pak. Riflemen

*282. { **Shri P. C. Borooah;**
Shri Raghunath Singh;
Shri Buta Singh;
Shri Gulshan;
Shri Narasimha Reddy;
Shri Ram Ratan Gupta;

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly 600 Pakistanis aided by East Pakistan Riflemen, raided Gongra village in Nadia district of West Bengal on or about the 11th June, 1963;

(b) if so, the loss of life/livestock/property inflicted by the raiders on the villagers; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shrimati

Lakshmi Menon): (a) to (c). On June 11, 1963, about 500 Pakistani nationals, accompanied by 30/40 East Pakistan Riflemen, assembled on the border of Indian village Gongra, P. S. Chapra, District Nadia. Later, some of the Pakistani nationals trespassed into Indian territory with their cattle and damaged standing crops belonging to Indian nationals. There was no loss of life or livestock but crops worth about Rs. 250 were destroyed.

Protests have been lodged by the Government of West Bengal and our Deputy High Commissioner at Dacca with the Government of East Pakistan. The State Government have also taken adequate steps to prevent recurrence of such incidents.

High Cost of Living in Calcutta

*283. **Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether the working class cost of living in and around Calcutta has gone up by 12 per cent as compared with last year; and

(b) whether Government propose to compensate the working class for the high cost of living?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour and Employment and for Planning (Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman): (a) The working class consumer price Index numbers for Calcutta and Howrah were 112 and 110 respectively in the month of June 1963—with base 1960; 100 (the latest month for which figures are available) as against 105 for both these places during the month of June 1962. The rise is, therefore, about 5—7 per cent.

(b) In some sectors of Employment, the D.A. is linked to the cost of living index and provides for automatic compensation. In the case of employment where there is no such provision it is a matter for negotiations between the parties concerned.