

Coal in Bihar

2028. **Shri Brajeshwar Prasad:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that coal has been discovered in village Chowgain under police station Sherghati, Sadar Sub-division of Gaya District in Bihar; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Conference on Asian Economic Cooperation

2029. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Shri P. C. Borooah:

Will the Minister of **International Trade** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a six-member delegation visited Manila recently to attend the special conference on Asian Economic Cooperation; and

(b) if so, the part played by the Indian delegation at the Conference?

The Minister of International Trade (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Indian Delegation participated actively in the discussions on the agenda items for the conference and made a significant contribution to the conclusions reached at the conference. A summary of the report and the copies of resolutions of the conference are laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2222/63].

Exports

2030. **Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:** Will the Minister of **International Trade** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several countries in which India enjoyed a traditional market for export of her

products, have curtailed their trade with the State Trading Corporation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to stabilise the trade?

The Minister of International Trade (Shri Manubhai Shah):(a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Contract Labour in non-Coal Mines

2031. **Shri Indrajit Gupta:** Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering** be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for permitting continued employment of contract labour in the non-coal mines;

(b) whether Government is aware of labour exploitation by contractors in the iron ore, dolomite and limestone mines under the Bhilai Steel Project; and

(c) Government's reaction in the matter?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering, (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) Contract labour has to be employed for the purpose of attending to work of intermittent nature, which by its very nature cannot be usefully taken departmentally, although it is the constant endeavour to reduce it to the minimum.

(b) and (c). Every effort is made to enforce labour laws and Minimum Wages Act in respect of labour employed by contractors. The Labour Officers examine the account books etc. Allegations made are enquired into and grievances redressed wherever facts justify.

Industrial Units in Rajasthan

2032. { **Shri Bishanchander Seth:**
Shri Dhaon:
Shri B. P. Yadava:

Will the Minister of **Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of India have issued licences