

Traffic and Engineering Arm of the Posts and Telegraphs Department; and

(d) whether the said policy has been adhered to by the Posts and Telegraphs Directorate?

The Minister of State in the Departments of Parliamentary Affairs and Communications (Shri Jaganatha Rao): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha as soon as possible.

International Telegraph Office, New Delhi

1463. **Dr. Melkote:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Telegraph Office, New Delhi is not being supervised by Technically qualified persons round the clock especially during the period of peak load of traffic in the Evening and at night;

(b) whether for want of such effective supervision, there was a serious ease of inordinate delay to the cable concerning the death of the late Air Marshal Mukherjee; and

(c) whether Government propose to review its working and to effect proper technical supervision round the clock to avoid such recurrence?

The Minister of State in the Departments of Parliamentary Affairs and Communications (Shri Jaganatha Rao): (a) The office has adequate supervision under qualified personnel. During the slackest period, from 2 A.M. to 6 A.M. the Senior Telegraphist on duty is in charge.

(b) No, Sir; the delay of 2-1/2 hours on that occasion was due to lapses of individual officials against whom suitable departmental action has been taken.

(c) Does not arise.

Hunger Strike by Kenduadih Colliery Miners

1464. **Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda:**
Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
Shri Mohammad Elias:
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
Shri B. K. Das:
Shri R. S. Pandey:

Will the Minister of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 140 miners of Kenduadih Colliery are on hunger strike since the 12th September, 1966 about 1000 ft. below ground in dark alley of that colliery;

(b) if so, what are their demands; and

(c) whether some of the miners had to be taken out of that Colliery and removed to the Dhanbad Hospital?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):

(a) to (c). One hundred and fifty miners of Kenduadih Colliery resorted to a stay-in strike underground from September 12 to 17, 1966 to press their demand for payment of arrears of wages and bonus. Some of the striking workmen had to be hospitalised. All payments due at the time were later made on the intervention of the Central Conciliation Machinery.

Implementation of Labour Laws

1465. **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Dr. M. M. Das:

Will the Minister of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to undertake the evaluation studies regarding the implementation of the Labour Laws and Industrial