

and water. Work on reclamation of land has also been undertaken depending upon the local conditions. Before any opencast project is sanctioned, an Environmental Management Plan is prepared and clearance is obtained from Ministry of Environment. This plan includes provision towards rehabilitation of affected persons.

A liberal rehabilitation package for land losers has been adopted by the coal companies. This package includes provision for vocational training, alternative house site, shifting allowance, cash compensation for land etc. In addition the package also provides for preference in employment to the extent new employment opportunities get created in the project in unskilled and semi-skilled categories.

Steps against Subsidence in Coal Area

2962. DR. SUDHIR RAY:
DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA:
SHRI HARADHAN ROY:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of cases of subsidence have come to light in different coal belt areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof, statewide and subsidiary-wise;

(c) whether efforts are being made to rehabilitate such persons; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, state-wise and subsidiary-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOURA): (a) to (d). The main problem of subsidence resulting from coal mining operations exists mainly in the Raniganj Coalfield of Eastern Coalfields Ltd., and to some

extent in the Jharia Coalfield of Bharat Coking Coal Ltd., due to unscientific exploitation of coal during prenationalisation days.

The following cases of subsidence have been reported in the recent time from the command areas of E C L and B C C L lying in the State of West Bengal and Bihar.

WEST BENGAL

- (i) on 4/3/90, subsidence occurred over a goaved out panel in Karnani Nimcha unit of Amritnagar Colliery. There was no damage to any surface structure and also no report of any casualty;
- (ii) On 5.7.90 subsidence occurred in Dhandadih village near Parasea 6 & 7 inclines causing cracks in 15 houses in the village. The management got these repaired;
- (iii) In July '90, pot-holing occurred at 3 places in Muchipara of Egra village near Mahabir Colliery. No damage to any building but 30 families have claimed that their land have become uncultivable due to loss of water on account of subsidence cracks;
- (iv) A 8 m. deep pot hole occurred near a bustee in Jemihari Khas Colliery of Satgram area in April, '91. No person was affected;
- (v) Due to subsidence in April '91 in Bahula Colliery of Kenda area, 30 temporary houses were damaged. 32 of the 54 persons affected have since been rehabilitated in a nearby

school building and construction of alternative accommodation for all affected persons has been undertaken which is likely to be completed in a month's time;

measuring 200 m × 100 m. affected 35 houses in Lakura village under Katras Area. Villagers have been rehabilitated near Nichitpur by BCCL management;

(vi) A 15 m. deep and 1.5 m. dia. pothole resulted from subsidence in Jambad unit of Bahula colliery in July '91. No person was injured;

(ii) On 10.10.90, subsidence measuring 10 m x 10 m. occurred near No. 2 Pit Bhaga area south of Lodna-Phus Bungalow road affecting 30 houses. People have been shifted and rehabilitated at Bhuli;

(vii) A subsidence measuring 90 m. by 60 m. occurred near Manohar Bahal village of Manohar Bahal Colliery of Salanpur area in July '91. No person was injured;

(iii) Subsidence occurred over Khaira section affecting Rajput bustee near Kenduadih in May '90, damaging partially 90 houses. All affected persons shifted and rehabilitated at Bhuli township by BCCL management.

(viii) A portion of the ground adjacent to United Commercial Bank situated in Barakar subsided in 1989 without any casualty. Barakar township falls within unsafe ground where construction of houses requires prior permission from District Magistrate, Burdwan under statutory provision made by the Govt. of West Bengal;

(ix) On 19.8.89, cracks 2" wide were found developed in 5—6 shops and a temple located on Barakar station Road. BCCL authorities requested them to shift to safer places but they did not co-operate as the location is commercially important. The management of Chench-Victoria Area of BCCL has informed State authorities of this occurrence.

With a view to checking the growth of habitation over unsafe areas, the office of the Directorate General of Mines Safety had declared as early as 1950, 40 areas in Rajiganj Coalfields as unsafe for human habitation. The Govt. of West Bengal had also passed Legislation in 1979 prohibiting construction over such unsafe areas. In spite of the enactment of legislation, the growth of settlements over the subsidence prone areas has not been contained and is growing on unabated. The Management of E C L could demolish houses and shift its employees to safe places whenever the situation so warranted. However, its efforts to do so for outsiders had not had the desired effect.

Development of Tourism in Maharashtra

BIHAR

(i) On 22.10.89, subsidence

2963. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state: