

**Disaster in ECL Mine in Raniganj**

\*53. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:  
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the disaster happened recently in Raniganj in the coalfield of Eastern Coalfields Ltd.;

(b) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the details of the measures proposed to be taken to prevent such types of accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d). An accident occurred at 4.00 A.M. on November 13, 1989 in the Mahabir Colliery of M's. Eastern Coalfields Ltd. as a result of inrush of water from abandoned shaft connected to Upper seam which were water-logged, into a seam where development work was in progress. Out of 220 persons working in that seam, all but 71 could come out through a working shaft before water accumulated there and made it unusable. The trapped persons took shelter in the rise side of the workings and conveyed their position by telephone. A borehole was drilled from the surface and food and essential supplies were sent to them from the early morning of November 14. A larger diameter bore hole was drilled and 65 trapped persons were brought out in a capsule fabricated by the Company by the morning of November 16. Search parties were sent subsequently through the bore hole to locate the remaining 6 persons but were unsuccessful. Following the dewatering of the working shaft, the bodies of these persons were recovered, the body of the sixth person

being found on December 23, 1989.

2. Officials of the Directorate General of Mines Safety are conducting statutory inquiry into the accident. The Coal India Ltd. has also constituted a committee of experts to look into the circumstances of the accident and to suggest measures to prevent recurrence of such accidents.

**Rojgar Yojana for Urban Poor**

\*54. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Rojgar Yojana for the urban poor like the Jawahar Rojgar Yojana for the rural poor is under consideration of Government; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof and how do these compare with those of Jawahar Rojgar Yojana?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b). The Nehru Rozgar Yojana which aims at providing employment to the urban unemployed and underemployed was launched by the Government of India in October, 1989.

The Nehru Rojgar Yojana has three components:

- (i) supporting the urban poor for setting up micro enterprises in all urban settlements;
- (ii) provision of wage employment through creation of socially useful public assets in the jurisdiction of urban local bodies having (a) population below 20,000; and (b) population between 20,000 and 1 lakh;