

[Shri Manubhai Shah]

section (1) of section 639 of the Companies Act, 1956.

- (2) A Review by the Government of the working of the above company. [Placed in Library See No. LT-1998-60].

AMENDMENT TO MINES RULES

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (7) of section 59 of the Mines Act, 1952, a copy of Notification No. GSR 228 dated the 27th February, 1960 making certain amendment to the Mines Rules, 1955. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1999/60].

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

SEVENTY-SIXTH REPORT

Shri Dasappa (Bangalore): I beg to present the Seventy-sixth Report of the Estimates Committee on the Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs Part I—Council of Scientific and Industrial Research.

12-06 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE
EXPLOSION IN HIRRI DOLOMITE MINES

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur) Under rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Labour and Employment to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The explosion in the Hirri Dolomite Mines in Madhya Pradesh on the 2nd March, 1960."

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): As the honourable members are already aware, the regrettable explosion took place in the Hirri Dolomite Mine at 11-30 a.m. on the 2nd March, 1960.

From the enquiry it has been found that while two workers were drilling a shot hole, the crow-bar accidentally struck presumably an unexploded

charge left in the toe of a shot-hole and caused an explosion. Consequently two drillers were killed instantaneously and two other persons received minor injuries. The latter two were treated at the Bilaspur Government Hospital and discharged.

About 1,000 persons are employed in the mine and the accident has not resulted in any unemployment.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I want to ask only one question. I want to know whether any *ad hoc* compensation has been paid to the families of those who are dead.

Shri Abid Ali: I do not think. Whatever was due to them according to the Workmen's Compensation Act must have been paid to them.

Mr. Speaker: He is not aware.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I gave notice ten or twelve days before. I am aware of the Workmen's Compensation Act. That will take four months. I want to know whether any *ad hoc* compensation has been paid or not.

Mr. Speaker: He said that he is not aware. The hon. Member may table a question.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: That will take another fifteen days.

12-07 hrs.

*DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—contd.
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS—contd.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now proceed with the further discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of External Affairs. We have got 1 hour and 40 minutes. I understand the Prime Minister would take 40 minutes

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I think that would be ample.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): May I suggest to you to please extend it by half an hour so that more