

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY):

(a) It is not unlikely that in the absence of guaranteed minimum wage, the workers on piece rates may face loss on earnings. It may be mentioned that in the notifications issued by the Central Government in their capacity as the appropriate Government under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the wages have been fixed on a time rate basis and not on piece rates.

(b) Section 3(2)(c) of the Act enables the appropriate Government of fix a minimum rate of remuneration to apply in the case of employees employed on piece work for the purpose of securing to such employees a minimum rate of wages on a time work basis i.e. a guaranteed time rate. The question whether this can take care of all employments covered by the Act will be examined.

Recognition of Medical Colleges in Karnataka by All India Medical Council

*655. **SHRI A. K. KOTRASHETTI:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the principles observed in recognising Medical Colleges by the All India Medical Council;

(b) whether all Medical Colleges in Karnataka have been recognised; and

(c) if not, the number of medical colleges not recognised in Karnataka and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) The Medical Council of India have prescribed specific criteria in respect of accommodation, staff, equipment, training and teaching facilities, which should be fulfilled before a Medical College is recognised.

(b) and (c). There are nine medical colleges in Karnataka of these, three

medical colleges are yet to be recognised. According to the Medical Council of India, there are deficiencies in the facilities available in these colleges.

Withdrawal of C.M.A. Concessions to Industries

*657. **SHRI RAJDEO SINGH:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal Consumers' Association have represented to Government that after nationalisation of non-coking coal mines, industries have had to pay upto 20 per cent more for their coal because the coal Mines Authority has withdrawn concessions which the industries had been enjoying earlier; and

(b) if so, the reasons for it and also whether withdrawing of concessions has contributed to the price-rise?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA):

(a) and (b). The Coal Mines Authority has not increased the coal prices which were prevailing at the time of the take-over of the mines. As a Government undertaking it has, however, streamlined the credit facilities which were being given by individual private companies as per their own set of procedure. It is not possible to assess the effect of this on the cost of coal for different industries now could this be attributed as the reason for price rise as there are a number of factors which contribute to the ultimate cost at the consumption centre.