

and other heavy mineral reserves. The investigations are still in progress. This work is of a continuous nature and is being undertaken on a year to year basis as a part of the field investigations of the Atomic Minerals Division, since the coastal sands are unstable in nature and require to be reassessed over a period of time.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Piling up of Coke in Jharia Coal Fields

*173. SHRI JHARKHANDE RAI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether coke worth rupees three crores is lying at the pitheads and bee-hive plant sites in Jharia coal fields owing to wagon shortage ;

(b) whether continued stacking is damaging the quality of the coke ; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to clear the piled up stocks ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Railways, who are the main carriers of coal/coke, are taking steps to improve the availability of wagons. Besides, to meet the demand of consumers located at short distance, transport of coal/coke by road is being encouraged.

Indo-Bulgarian Talks

*174. SHRI E. V. VIKHE PATIL :
SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Indian Delegation recently visited Bulgaria and had talks regarding the development in the Indian sub continent and co-operation at the United Nations ; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) The discussions showed close similarity of views of the two sides on the matters discussed. Both sides agreed on the usefulness of such discussions and decided to have similar consultation from time to time on questions of mutual interest.

Strike by Kanpur Textile Workers

*176. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE :
SHRI B. K. DASCHOW-
DHURY :

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

(a) whether the Textile workers of Kanpur went on a day's token strike on the 17th July, 1972 demanding wage increase and interim relief ;

(b) if so, whether any step is being taken to intervene in the matter ; and

(c) whether the Central Labour machinery will also try to help the State Labour Machinery to persuade the mill owners to come to a reasonable settlement ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) According to the information received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh, workers of ten textile units went on one day's token strike on 17th July, 1972.

(b) and (c). The matter falls in the State sphere. It is understood, however, that the State Government intends convening a tripartite conference to discuss the demands of the workers.

Loss in Coal Production in West Bengal Collieries due to Power Crisis

*177. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether coal production in West Bengal collieries has been adversely affected by acute power crisis ;

(b) if so, the extent of loss in physical and financial terms ; and

(c) the steps, if any, taken to meet the situation ?