

electrical train lighting system of coaches.

- (ii) All coaches particularly wooden bodied coaches are being tested for leaks.
- (iii) Insulating sleeves are being provided on leads of fans and junction boxes.
- (iv) Branch wiring of coaches is being thoroughly checked during periodical over-haul.

#### **Bottling Plants for Gold Spot and Coca-Cola**

\*344. SHRI S. P. VERMA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of bottling plants bottling Gold Spot in the country in the year 1965 and 1970 and their locations ; and

(b) the number of bottling plants bottling Coca-Cola in the country in the year 1970 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA) : (a) Twenty eight bottling plants were bottling 'Gold Spot' in the country in the year 1970 as against fifteen such plants in the year 1965. A list showing the location of 'Gold Spot' bottling plants is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-344/71.]

(b) Twenty-one bottling plants were bottling 'Coca-Cola' in the year 1970.

#### **Closure of Small Scale Industries due to shortage of Coal and Steel**

\*346. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA :  
SHRI NATHU RAM  
AHIRWAR :  
SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of small industrial units in the country are faced with the consequence of closure due to the acute shortage of coal and steel ; and

(b) if so, the total need of these units and the steps taken by Government to meet them ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Shortage of Power in Delhi due to fall of Water Level in Sutlej**

\*347. SHRI N. S. BISHT :  
SHRI K. M. MADHUKAR :

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether he has stated that Delhi is likely to face an acute shortage of power in case the water level in the Sutlej river does not rise ; and

(b) if so, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by Government to maintain adequate supply of power to Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO) : (a) and (b). In the statement laid on the Table of the House on the 25th May, 1971, I had pointed out that if the inflows into Bhakra did not improve, there would be reduction in generation of about 2 million units per day at Bhakra and as a consequence all the States receiving power from the Bhakra Project would have to cut down their power consumption. This would affect Delhi as well. Accordingly, Government had prepared a scheme for load shedding in Delhi area which was being kept ready for implementation, in case the power supply position at Bhakra aggravates. (However, the position has since improved considerably). The measures included load shedding of about 30 to 50 MW in Delhi by—

(i) Shifting of shop hours.

(ii) banning the use of decorative lights and illumination of fountains.

(iii) regulating cinema shows.

(iv) staggering of industrial loads.

(v) phased load shedding of feeders in different areas of different hours of the day.

Apart from improvement in power generation at Bhakra, commissioning of the 55 MW generating unit at I.P. Station, Delhi in a few weeks' time, commissioning of Badarpur Thermal Power Station next year and inter-connections with neighbour-

ing power systems, will ensure maintenance of adequate supply of power to Delhi.

### New Procedure of counting of Votes

\*348. SHRI JAGANNATHRAO

JOSHI :

SHRI R. V. BADE :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether during the last Elections to Lok Sabha, substantial changes were made in the procedure for counting of votes without consulting the major political parties ; and

(b) if so, the names of the political parties, separately, which supported or opposed the new procedure for counting of votes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY) :

(a) and (b). The counting procedure was changed by making suitable amendments to the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961, on the basis of the recommendations received from the Election Commission. The procedure thus adopted for amendment of the rules does not constitute any departure from the practice hitherto adopted, nor does the law governing the conduct of elections provide for any prior consultation with the political parties before amendments to rules could be undertaken. A letter dated the 20th January, 1971, jointly signed by the following persons belonging to the political parties indicated against their names was received in the Election Commission expressing opposition to the introduction of last minute changes in the rules :

1. Shri Pitamber Dass — Jan Sangh
2. Shri Raj Narain — Samyuktha Socialist Party
3. Shri S. D. Mishra — Congress then led by Shri Nijalingappa
4. Shri R. C. Cooper — Swatantra

No communication opposing the new procedure was received from any other political Parties.

### Shortage of Coal in Delhi due to Strike of Railway Workers

\*350. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to the strike of Railway workers there has been an acute shortage of coal in the capital since January, 1971 ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) and (b). Strike of Railway Staff and other factors have affected movement of coal to Delhi since January 1971 and even earlier since September 1970.

Drop in movement of coal to Delhi was caused due to a general drop in coal loading from West Bengal and Bihar fields during 1970-71 and particularly since September 1970 due to the serious difficulties faced by the railways in the Eastern Sector for reasons beyond their control. The single largest factor affecting the smooth train running and supply of wagons to collieries in West Bengal and Bihar fields has been the adverse law and order conditions in West Bengal such as the thefts of wagon fittings, over-head traction wires, telecommunication cables, track materials etc., victimisation of passenger and goods trains, assault and murders of railway staff, looting and arson of railway property at stations and offices, lightning and prolonged strikes by railway staff, bomb attacks at stations, yards and colonies, bundhs, hartals, and other stoppages of work paralysing railway operation and many other such anti-social activities. Proper and effective action to control such activities in a function of the State Governments. The railways on their part have strengthened their own Protection Force in the area to the maximum extent possible. Closest possible co-ordination is being maintained by the Railway authorities at all the levels with the State Government of West Bengal to enable them to deal with such activities effectively. They have been requested at the highest level to take firm and effective steps to restore normalcy in railway working in the area. There has, however, been no improvement in the situation so far. Once the railway working in that area is restored