

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal under contemplation on this subject.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Supply of Headlight for Coal mine Workers

@@3579-B. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VVENKATRAMAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) how many dresses are distributed to a coal mine worker in a year;

(b) whether they are supplied with headlight equipment; and

(c) whether there is any scheme to encourage good turn out of work in coal mines by labour community just like 'Bonus' incentive in some industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Selected categories of workers such as drivers, paramedical staff, security guards etc. are supplied with dresses and the periodicity of supply varies for different categories.

(b) Every worker going under ground is provided with head gear, which includes a cap lamp.

(c) Yes, Sir. The details are worked out on year-to-year basis, in consultation with Central Trade Unions.

Huge Stock pile of coal reserves

£3579-C. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

@@Previously Unstarred Question 3430, transferred from 20th August, 1993.

£Previously Unstarred Question 4103, transferred from 25th August, 1993.

(a) whether Government are aware of a huge stock-pile of coal reserves on the pit heads of the coal mines;

(b) if so, what measures are under-way to clear this stock;

(c) whether the Coal Ministry has ever approached the Railway Minister in this connection; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) The pithead coal stocks in Coal India Limited and Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. as on 30-6-93, were 42.40 million tonnes (provisional).

(b) Steps being taken to clear the accumulated stocks are as follows.

(1) Close monitoring of despatches by rail through interaction with Ministry of Railways.

(2) Increased despatches by other captive modes like merry-go-round, ropeways, belt conveyors, etc.

(3) Since substantial accumulated stocks are available at the road linked collieries, consumers have been advised to draw coal by road.

(4) To improve the availability of coal to consumers, schemes for Liberalised Sale of coal have been introduced.

(c) and (d) There is close and regular interaction between Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Coal and Coal Companies to optimise movement of coal by rail. Besides, regular meetings are taken at the level of Secretary (Coordination) in Cabinet Secretariat to remove any bottlenecks and to achieve targetted growth in infrastructure sector.