

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER); (a) As applications for permission to visit Assam are made to the concerned Indian Missions abroad, statistics regarding this are not maintained by the Ministry of Tourism.

(b) Based on the records maintained at tourist lodges the Government of Assam have reported that during 1985 only 40 foreign tourists and in 1986 only 149 foreign tourists stayed in the tourist lodges maintained by the Government of Assam.

(c) Foreign exchange earnings from Tourism for the year 1985-86 are provisionally estimated at Rs. 1460 crores.

Accident at Ghanshyam Colliery, Raniganj

2636. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a fatal accident at the Ghanshyam Colliery, Kajora area ECL, Raniganj on 25th July 1987;

(b) if so, what were the causes;

(c) what was the number of workers who were killed;

(d) whether an inquiry was held into the accident; and

(e) if so, what were its findings and what action has been taken on the basis of the inquiry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The enquiry into the accident has revealed that the accident occurred owing to fall of a roof when three loaders were surreptitiously lifting coal from a goaved out area of a depillaring panel against the explicit directives of the mining sardar and in contravention of the provisions of the Coal Mines Regulations, 1957. All the three loaders were killed. Since the deceased persons were themselves found responsible for this accident, no action has been taken.

Accident in E.C.L.

2637. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of accidents that took place in Eastern Coalfields Ltd. during 1987;

(b) how many of them were fatal;

(c) how many persons had been killed and how many were seriously injured;

(d) whether any enquiry was held into all these accidents; and

(e) if so, the details of the reports and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA); (a) to (c) During the period from January to July, 1987 sixty accidents are reported to have occurred in the mines of the Eastern Coalfields Ltd. Out of these 15 were fatal accidents. In all, 18 persons were killed and 36 seriously injured.

(d) and (e) In pursuance of Section 23(2) of the Mines Act, 1952, all accidents involving loss of life are required to be enquired into by the officers of the Directorate General of Mines Safety. Depending upon the gravity of the situation, serious accidents are also enquired into by them. All the 15 fatal accidents and 9 serious accidents which occurred between January and July, 1987 in the mines of Eastern Coalfields were enquired into. According to enquiry reports, some of the major causes for the accidents were fall of roof, fall of sides, transportation machinery, explosives etc. In cases, where persons were held responsible for the accidents, appropriate action was taken either by Director General of Mines Safety or by the management at the instance of Directorate General of Mines Safety, such as, discharge or suspension from service, suspension of statutory certificates, warning by Directorate General of Mines Safety.