

no general strike anywhere in any coal mine in Bihar and Orissa during the last six months, excepting a few instances of lightening strike for different reasons on different occasions in different mines.

(b) Does not arise.

Kapili Project in Assam

2523. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) when the North Eastern Electrical Power Corporation started the Kapili Project in Assam;

(b) what was the original estimated cost of the project;

(c) what is the revised estimated cost for completion of the project now; and

(d) what are the reasons for delay in commissioning all the units of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) The Kapili Hydro-electric Project in Assam was handed over for implementation to the North Eastern Electric Power Corporation in **June, 1976.**

(b) The original estimated cost of the project was Rs. 56.77 crores.

(c) The estimated cost of the project was revised to Rs. 212 crores in July, 1986.

(d) The two units of 25 MW each at Khandong Power House of the Project were commissioned in March and May, 1984. The two units of 50 MW each at Kopili Power House of the Project are under execution. Besides the modifications in the design, the Project was delayed on account of the uncertain conditions that prevailed in the region. The commissioning has now been delayed by the collapse of a portion of the tunnel during the initial filling of the Umrong Tunnel of the Kopili Power House in September, 1986.

Working of Rural Electrification Corporation

2524. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR PATT-NAIK : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a frequent change in incumbency for the Chairmanship of Rural Electrification Corporation; if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the R.E.C. has removed nearly thirty persons employed as daily-wages L.D.Cs./Typists although there is no reduction in magnitude of the work in the Corporation; if so, what are the reasons therefor and how the smooth working of the Corporation is proposed to be ensured; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that persons who have rendered nearly nine months service on daily-wages i.e. who have completed even three tenures of 89 days each, have also been removed; if so, what are the reasons therefor and what action is being taken to regularise their services ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) 35 persons engaged on daily-wages in different category such as, clerical, typists, watermen, etc. for attending temporarily to the work in the Corporation could not be continued on the expiry of their period of employment. These persons worked for a total period ranging from 3 to 11 months in different spells.

As these persons were employed in the Corporation for work on temporary nature, presently there is no proposal to re-employ them.