

for these 27 items by the concerned companies has not been found to be acceptable. Dates of commencement of these items are not readily available.

(b) A decision on the production of such items would be taken after the recommendations/findings of the Working Group, set up to look into all the aspects of the problems relating to the manufacture of such items and to suggest possible lines of action that can be taken and the procedure to be followed, are available.

Price of Chemical Products

2895. SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the price of Vicks Cough Drops, Vaporub inhaler, Electral, Proxyvon, Salons Balm, Waterbury Red Label, Strepsils, Hails Lizanges before the promulgation of the Drugs Prices and Control Order 1979 and what are their present prices;

(b) whether it is a fact that the percentage of increase in prices of these products as well as several other category IV products is over 200 per cent; what are the major twenty most selling products of Category-IV names of products, manufacturers and the percentage of increase in each case under the Drugs Prices and Control Order, 1979;

(c) if so, why the manufacturers were allowed to overcharge the consumers and what is the profitability of each of these manufacturers during the past three years; year-wise; and

(d) what are other products under exempted category of these manufacturers, names of the products as well as the price increase after the announcement of the Drugs Prices and Control Order, 1979?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI R. C. RATH): (a) to (d) Information to the extent available would be collected and laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

Departmentalisation of coal transport

2896. SHRI KALYAN ROY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 571 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 3rd May, 1982 and state:

(a) what is the further progress of departmentalisation of coal transport in each of the companies of the CIL—company-wise;

(b) what are the names of coal mines where coal transport or sand transport are either fully or partially done through contractors; including so called ex-service-men;

(c) what is the amount paid to each of these contractors in each coal company under CIL in 1982 and 1983 and details thereof, colliery-wise and company-wise;

(d) how much money has been paid to various parties like Atwal Company and others for hiring their heavy machinery etc. for removal of over burden work in various companies from 1980 to 1983 — company-wise and year-wise; and

(e) what steps have been taken to eliminate contractors completely?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. SHIV SHANAR): (a) to (e). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Violation of section 28 of Mines Act by CCL

2897. SHRI KALYAN ROY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a representation dated the 2nd December, 1983, from a Member of Parliament regarding the flagrant violation of Section 28 of the mines Act by the management of ARA colliery in OCL and illegal penal action against miners for refusing to work on Sundays;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether the matter has been fully investigated and if so, when and by whom and the results of the investigations;

(d) whether the management refused to accept the suggestion of the ALC(C) to maintain the *status quo*; and

(e) if so, what specific action has been taken by the Industrial Relations Machinery and the D.G.M.S. in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) to (c) A communication dated 2-12-83 has been received containing, *inter-alia*, allegations about violation of Section 28 of the Mines Act by the Management of ARA Colliery in OCL on 30-10-83 and penal action against some miners. The company have in their report dated 10-12-1983 stated that on 30-10-83, 66 truck loaders of ARA Colliery, after reporting for duty refused to load coal intended for steel plants. The refusal of the 66 truck loaders to work amounted to an illegal strike and they were not paid wage for 30-10-83. These loaders and other workmen absented themselves from work on 31-10-83. This illegal strike continued till 1-11-83. Five workers were suspended for involvement in acts subversive of discipline and 8 days wages cut in terms of the Payment of Wages Act was enforced against 250 workers.

Further investigation into the matter is not contemplated.

(d) and (e). The Asstt. Labour Commissioner (C) Hazaribagh held discussions on 1-11-83 and brought about a settlement with the result that the strike was called off from 2-11-83 and the workers had resumed duty.

Recruitment in Santhal Pargana Coal Mines

2898. SHRI KALYAN ROY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the progress of investigations and enquiries into illegal recruitment of workers in Santhal Pargana Coal Mines and allotment of coal to one Kallol Mukherji for a non-existent factory where-in some of the big officers of ECL are involved;

(b) what was the need for second investigation by Vigilance and others when Shri Deshpande in his report clearly stated that the recruitment of workers in Santhal Pargana was irregular, improper and unjustified;

(c) what are the reasons for which action against officers mentioned in Shri Deshpande's report has not been taken and they have been allowed to hold important positions in ECL;

(d) by when vigilance enquiry is likely to be completed;

(e) what are the reasons for which no action has been taken so far against officers responsible for allotment of large quantity of coal which has not been used for briquette production; and

(f) whether it is a fact that Shri Mukherjee continues to get coal allotment and having various contracts with ECL?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) Detailed enquiries in both the cases are in progress.

(b) to (d). On examination of Shri Deshpande's report which was a preliminary report, it was considered necessary to have a detailed investigation into the various issues involved in the matter. The enquiry is expected to be completed shortly.

(e) and (f) Action will be taken against officers found responsible and the owner of the Unit on receipt of the technical team's report. CIL has been instructed to stop supply of coal to this party pending detailed enquiry.

Writ petition filed by Hindalon

2899. SHRI KALYAN ROY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1586 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 8th August, 1983, and state:

(a) what steps Government have taken to get the stay order in the Bombay High