

Rs. 50/- p.m. for the nine months, diet charges and also payment of rail fare by second class for the concerned worker.

Beedi Workers Welfare Cess Act

1212. SHRI B. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) what are the main objective of the "Beedi Workers Welfare Cess Act";

(b) whether all the benefits are availed of by the beedi workers under this Act; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI DHARMA VIR): (a) to (c): The Beedi Workers Welfare Cess Act provides for levy and collection of cess for financing the welfare activities of the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund set up under the Beedi Workers Fund Act, 1976. The Act is intended to supplement the efforts of the employers and the State Governments to ameliorate the living conditions of workers engaged in bidi establishments by way of provision of housing, medical facilities and scholarships for children of beedi workers. Besides the Fund is being utilised for various purposes specified therein.

1213. [Transferred to the 2nd November, 1982].

Call to halt the Rourkela Steel Plant work by Workers' Union

1214. SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the recognised union at Rourkela Steel Plant has violated the code of conduct during the last three years;

(b) whether this union gave a call to halt the Rourkela steel plant on January 19, 1982 by joining A.I. India strike called by left parties; and

(c) what action Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) to (c) The requisite information is being collected from the concerned authorities and the same will be placed on the Table of the House when received.

Enquiry into Topa Colliery Disaster

1215. SHRI HAREKRUSHNA MALLICK:

SHRI KALYAN ROY:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Court of Enquiry into the Topa Colliery disaster has started its work;

(b) if not, what are the reasons of delay and when it is going to start the enquiry;

(c) what action Government have taken to expedite its work and give its findings which will help to reduce fatal accidents due to roof fall and details thereof; and

(d) whether investigation into the Sarubera Colliery (CCL) has been completed and if so, what are the results thereof and if not, what are the reasons for delay and when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) to (c) A Court of Inquiry has been set up on the 5th October, 1982 with Justice K.L. Pandey, Retired Judge of Madhya Pradesh High Court to inquire into the causes of and the circumstances attending the accident which occurred at Topa Colliery on the 16th July, 1982 resulting in the death of 16 persons.