

system of colliery-wise linkage, allotment and distribution as prevailing before nationalisation of coal mines and if so; what are the changes and the results thereof; and

(e) if the reply to part (d) above be in the negative what are the reasons for not changing the old system?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes.

(b) It depends on availability of coal at rail-head ready for despatch which varies from time to time.

(c) Average daily number of wagons loaded during 1978, 1979 and 1980 are given below:—

1978	.	.	9207
1979	.	.	8865
Jan. '80	.	.	8968
Feb. '80	.	.	9291
Mar. '80	.	.	9251
Apr. '80	.	.	8876
May '80	.	.	8520 (Prov.)

There was a drop in loading in April and May, 1980 as compared to earlier months due to highly unsatisfactory power supply situation in the Eastern Sector.

(d) and (e) Coal mine sidings have been rationalised after nationalisation of coal mines to suit loading of full train loads of coal. Rules of allotment have been changed to the extent required to suit rake loading arrangements. Indents are being accepted 48 Hrs. to 72 Hrs. in advance to facilitate allotment of wagons keeping in view, consumer needs, collieries convenience and railway operational problems.

Repression of minority communities in Bangladesh

*723. SHRI KALYAN ROY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the massive repression and terror against over half a million Chakmas and other

Buddhists in the Chittagong Hill Tracts district of Bangladesh by the Bangladesh Government and army;

(b) if so, whether Government of India have taken up the matter or propose to take up the matter with the Bangladesh Government for better relations in the sub-continent in this regard; and

(c) if the reply to part (b) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Government has seen reports in this regard.

(b) and (c) In high-level contacts with the Bangladesh Government, it has been conveyed to them that if any group of their citizens, because of cultural or social status, should have a sense of insecurity, it could cause a large scale exodus of the affected persons.

Ernakulam-Alleppey railway line

724. SHRI K C. SEBASTIAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction work of the Ernakulam-Alleppey line has commenced;

(b) if the answer be in the negative, when the work will start; and

(c) by when the construction of the above line is likely to be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Construction of a BG line from Ernakulam to Alleppey is an approved work and final location survey is in progress.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The project is expected to be completed in about three years time.