

(c) what is the outcome of discussion he held with the authorities of those countries in regard to the improving of working conditions of Indian labour in those countries?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) A Delegation led by the Union Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Labour visited Kuwait, Iraq, Bahrain, and U.A.E. from 5th to 13th February, 1979. The main purpose of the visit was to study the living and working condition of Indian workers developed in these countries, to study the reasonableness of the wages on which these workers were employed and to express goodwill and concern on the part of the Government of India for the welfare of our workers in these countries.

(b) The Delegation found the working and living conditions of our workers generally satisfactory except in a few cases where arrangements for accommodation and sanitation were not up to the mark.

(c) The Governments of these countries expressed genuine concern for the welfare of the Indian workers and also assured the delegation that the laws of their countries provided adequate protection to our workers. The employers of Indian workers in these countries also expressed their readiness to improve the working and living conditions wherever these were not found up to the mark.

Coal shortage in the Railways

352. SHRI N. P. CHENGALRAYA NAIDU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that till the middle of November, 1978 because of continued coal shortage wagons could not be loaded;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that with improvement' in the coal

production, the Railways failed to make available the required number of wagons; and

(c) if so, what are the facts of the case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) to (c) It is a fact that due to floods and breaches in September-October there had been a drop in coal production and hence in movement of coal by rail. Both production and movement of coal by rail registered significant improvement since December, 1978.

Enquiry into the Shipping Corporation of India and Mugal Lines

353. SHRI BIPINPAL DAS:
SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted an enquiry into the working of the Shipping Corporation of India and the Mugal Lines;

(b) if so, what were the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

पूर्वोत्तर सीमा रेलवे पर मैसर्स अग्रवाल

एण्ड कम्पनी को खान पान का ठेका

354, श्री रामेश्वर सिंह

श्री बी सत्यनारायण रेड्डी:

क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उन स्टेशनों और वस्तुओं के नाम क्या-क्या हैं जिनके लिए श्री पी० आर०