

(b) whether most of these accidents were attributable to the fact that the buses did not stop for allowing the people to get in or to get down from them; and

(c) what action Government have taken against the drivers and conductors in cases where it was found that such accidents had occurred on account of rashness or negligence of drivers/conductors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INCHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) D.T.C. does not maintain separate data in regard to accidents of this nature.

(b) No, Sir. The DTC drivers have instructions to park buses at the bus stops along the kerb line. In some cases, the drivers do not follow these instructions faithfully which result in injuries to commuters. Generally, however, such accidents are the result of the attempt made by passengers to board or alight from running buses.

(c) Prompt departmental action is taken against the drivers and conductors if it is proved that such accidents occurred because of rashness or negligence on their part. During peak hours, DTC's Inspectorate staff is deputed to important bus stops to ensure quick and orderly clearance of traffic and proper parking of buses.

Memorandum submitted to President to enquire into charges of corruption against Union Ministers

1624. SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA;
SHRI PRAKASH MEHROTRA;
SHRI GURUDEV GUPTA;
SHRIMATI HAMIDA
HABIBU LLAH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be Pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Members of Parliament in a memo-

randum submitted to the President on the 21st July, 1978, urged Government to institute a judicial inquiry into the alleged charges of corruption involving Union Ministers and their relations;

(b) if so, what are the main contents of the memorandum; and

(c) what action Government are taking in the matter?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The memorandum does not contain any specific charges. It refers to newspaper reports carrying charges allegedly made by the former Home Minister in his correspondence with the Prime Minister. The matter has already been raised and is being dealt with in Parliament.

Shortage of coal

1625. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that shortage of coal has affected the production in many industries, including steel, power, paper, textiles and cement;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some textile mills in Bombay and Ahmedabad have informed the Coal India Limited that they may close down their units due to the shortage of coal; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to meet the crisis?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Despatches of coal to the cement, paper and textile industries during April-June 1978-79 have been larger