

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the report published in the 'Hindustan' dated the 23rd June, 1972 to the effect that Britain is still supplying arms to Pakistan on a large scale; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto ?]

विदेश मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री सुरेन्द्र पाल सिंह) : (क) जो हाँ।

(ख) ब्रिटिश सरकार का इन खबरी को ओर ध्यान खिचा गया है कि ब्रिटिश हथियार पाकिस्तान पहुँच रहे हैं। यद्यपि ब्रिटिश सरकार इन खबरों को अस्वीकार किया है और हमसे कहा है कि विशेष करारों के अधीन इरान और टर्की को दिए गए उनके हथियार ब्रिटिश सरकार से अनुमति लिए बिना किसी अन्य देश को हस्तांतरित नहीं किए जा सकते फिर भी उन्होंने आगे पूछताछ करने का वादा किया है।

सरकार इस मामले पर सावधानी से नजर रख रही है।

1[THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The British Government's attention has been drawn to reports that British arms are finding their way to Pakistan. Although the British Government denied these reports and told us that arms supplied by them to Iran and Turkey under specific agreements could not be transferred to other countries without the consent of the British Government, they have promised to make further inquiries.

Government are keeping a careful watch in the matter.]

CLOSURE OF THE PATMOHANA COLLIERY

*288. SHRI N. K. KRISHNAN :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Assistant Labour Commissioner (Central), Asansol, has written a letter on 25-5-72 to the Additional District Magistrate, Asansol about the non-payment of wages to the workers of the Patmoharia Colliery and arbitrary closure of the mine ; and if so, the details thereof;

(b) what are the legal dues which have been rendered unemployed by this the Patmohana Colliery;

(c) what steps have been taken by the Industrial Relations Machinery against the management for arbitrary closure and the non-payment of wages and the details thereof; and

(d) the total number of workers who have been rendered unemployed by this closure?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): (a) The Assistant Labour Commissioner (Central), Asansol, wrote a letter to the Additional District Magistrate, Asansol on the 25th May, 1972 informing him about the non-payment of wages to the workers of the Colliery by the management and the closure of 7/8 Pits of the Colliery and requested him to prevail upon the management to make the payments to the workers.

(b) The wages to weekly paid workers have not been paid from week ending 13th May, 1972 onwards and monthly-paid workers have not been paid wages from the month of April, 1972, onwards. The nature of other dues could not be ascertained for want of records.

(c) No. 1 and 2 Pits of the Colliery are reported to have started working from 7-8-72. Inclines 7 and 8 are not yet working as restriction has been imposed by the Director General, Mines Safety under Section 22 of the Mines Act, for the relaxation of which the management and the union are reported to have approached the Director General, Mines Safety. An agreement has been entered into by the parties

before the Sub Divisional Officer, Asansol on 2-8-72 on the subject of the payment of wages to the workers.

(d) 1347.

WEST BENGAL JUTE AGREEMENT

*289. « SHRI MONORANJAN ROY.
SHRI SASANKASEKHAR

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

(a) whether it is a fact that some jute millowners outside West Bengal have not yet implemented the West Bengal Jute agreement;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to persuade the employers to give effect to the agreement; and

(c) the names of the factories outside West Bengal which have not implemented the agreement fully?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) to (c) Presumably the reference is to the jute agreement signed by the parties before the Joint Labour Commissioner, West Bengal on May 7, 1972. The matter falls in the State sphere. According to available information, the agreement provides that it will be applicable to workers employed in the jute mills in West Bengal only. The question of its implementation by jute mills in other states would be matter for the parties to take up with the State Industrial Relations Machinery concerned.

MAULANA BHASANI'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS INDIA

*290. SHRI DWIJENDRALAL SEN GUPTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the anti-Indian propaganda spearheaded by Mariana Bhasani in Bangladesh in the recent past; and

(b) what was the total expenditure incurred by the Government of India during the period of Mariana Bhasani's stay in India since March 25, 1971 including his medical and the other expenses?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Government have seen some reports about the expression of anti-Indian sentiments by certain elements in Bangladesh.

(b) Rs. 47.650.00.

CLOSED FACTORIES IN WEST BENGAL

*291. SHRI SUHRID MULLICK CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state.

(a) what are the number of factories which are still to be opened in West Bengal;

(b) what steps Government propose to take to reopen the still closed factories in that State;

(c) what are the number of employees affected by such closures;

(d) what are the number of factories which since have been opened after the last general elections in March, 1972; and

(e) the number of factories Government have taken over in West Bengal after the last general elections and how many do they propose to take over in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected.

(e) According to the information made available by the ministries of Foreign Trade and Industrial Development, the number of factories in West Bengal whose management has been taken over after the last General Elections upto August 7, 1972 was 7. Cases