

particular employment included in the Schedule to the Act is reduced from 1000 to 500 in the whole State ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to amend the Minimum Wages Act?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR)

(a) These and other recommendations of National Commission on Labour regarding minimum wages are under examination.

(b) Does not arise.

AGRICULTURAL LAND OCCUPATION BY REFUGEES IN WEST BENGAL

1305. SHRI JAIRAMDAS DAULATRAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the West Bengal Government have regularised the originally unpermitted occupation of agricultural land by refugees who came from former East Bengal (i) in consequence of Partition before and during or soon after 1947, and (ii) in consequence of communal disturbances and insecurity in 1964;

(b) what was the number approximately of the refugees from the former East Bengal who though nationals of Pakistan, escaped into India in 1964 without any passport or travel documents as persons seeking refuge in India from a situation of insecurity of life in former East Bengal ;

(c) whether the refugees mentioned in part (b) above were given the benefits of relief and rehabilitation by the Government of India ; and

(d) the amount of money sanctioned by Government for the above relief and rehabilitation ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR) : (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) About 4,42,300 persons.

(c) with the exception of certain categories of persons, the refugees who came to India from the erstwhile East Pakistan from January, 1964 to the end of October, 1964, sought admission in relief camps and were willing to be rehabilitated outside West Bengal, were considered eligible for the benefits of relief and rehabilitation. From the 1st November, 1964, these benefits were made applicable to those who came to India from the erstwhile East Pakistan with migration certificates. The following categories of persons remained excluded from relief and rehabilitation benefits :

(i) Migrants who had friends or relatives in India or financial means of their own and could make their own arrangements for settling down in India ;

(ii) Those, a part of whose families had come to India earlier, received rehabilitation benefits and settled down either in West Bengal or elsewhere and who were expected to join up the part families wherever settled.

(d) Relief and rehabilitation funds are sanctioned from time to time to cover all eligible refugees; separate figures only for the refugees mentioned in part (b), have not been maintained.

TAKE OVER OF THE MANAGEMENT OF THE COKING COAL MINES

1306. SHRI ROSHAN LAL : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 350 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 4th August, 1972 and state whether the information asked for therein has since been collected by the Government and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : The information asked for is still being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as it is available.