

(a) the number of lock-outs which are continuing in the collieries of West Bengal;

(b) the number of workers who are affected by these lock-outs; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to lift the lock-outs?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI JAI-SUKHLAL HATHI): (a) Two.

(b) 1,523.

(c) (i) A Dutta's Central Kaiora Colliery, the dispute having been referred to Central Government Industrial Tribunal, Calcutta, for adjudication, the continuance of the lock-out has been prohibited under Section 10(3) of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 (14 of 1947).

(ii) At Ratibati Colliery the matter has been complicated by strained relations between the workers and the employer on account of a murder that took place at the colliery and the murder and other related issues being sub-judice.

DETENTION OF CANADIAN TOURISTS

840. SHRI NIREN GHOSH: SHRI ARAVINDAKSHAN KAIMAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two Canadian tourists holding international passports were detained by the police in Silchar On June 23, 1967;

(b) if so, whether they were trying to cross over to Pakistan illegally;

(c) what were the circumstances in which they were detained; and

(d) whether Government propose to impose severe restrictions on movement of foreigners in Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS* (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). They were detained because of their presence in Assam after their permits had expired and as they were attempting to go to-Pakistan through an unauthorised route. They were interrogated by the local District authorities, but nothing incriminating was found against them. They were later made to leave for Calcutta.

(d) The entire State of Assam has already been declared a 'restricted area' and no foreigner is allowed to enter or stay in Assam without a special permit issued by the prescribed authority. There is no proposal, to impose any further restrictions.

APPLICATIONS FOR TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS PENDING IN DELHI

841. SHRI R. P. KHAITAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for the grant of telephone connections which are pending in Delhi;

(b) the number of telephone connections which were granted in 1966—67 in the city; and

(c) what steps have been taken to expedite the grant of telephone connections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJ-RAL): (a) 60,229 as on 1st July, 1967.

(b) 3,756.

(c). The existing Delhi exchanges have a total capacity of 65,475 lines. This will be increased by 17,500 lines during the current financial year and by an other 45,000 lines during the remaining 3 years of the 4th plan.