

COAL MINES DISPUTES PENDING WITH
INDUSTRIAL TRIBUNAL, DHANBAD

544. SHRI M. V. BHADRAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of disputes from the Raniganj and Asansol coal belt area which are pending before the Industrial Tribunal, Dhanbad;

(b) when were these disputes referred to the Tribunal; and

(c) what are the reasons of delay in the settlement of these disputes ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) 102.

(b) 67 in 1965 and 35 in 1966.

(c) The disputes are taken up in the order of the date of reference and not on the basis of region or State. With the setting up of the Calcutta Industrial Tribunal the position is expected to ease.

VIOLATION OF MINES ACT BY COAL MINES

545. SHRI M. V. BHADRAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of coal mines against which prosecution cases have been launched for violation of the Mines Act and the Rules and Regulations made thereunder during the year 1965 and up to June, in 1966; and

(b) what are the results of such prosecutions ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b) A statement is placed on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix LVII, Annexure No. 34.]

ACCIDENTS IN COAL MINES

546. SHRI M. V. BHADRAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of accidents that took place in the various coal mines from July, 1965 to June, 1966 involving death, injury and loss of property;

(b) what are the names of the concerned coal mines and the cause of the accidents; and

(c) what action was taken by Government in each case ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) 190 fatal accidents resulting in the death of 225 persons and serious injury to 35 persons, 1,860 serious accidents resulting in injury to 1,904 persons, and 100 dangerous occurrences took place during the period July, 1965 to June, 1966.

(b) The accidents relate to a majority of coal mines in the country; there are at present over 850 working coal mines. The main causes of the accidents are fall of roof or side; defects in haulage, explosives and machinery; irruption of water; electrical faults, accumulation of gas, etc.

(c) Under section 23(2) of the Mines Act, an enquiry is required to be made into all accidents causing loss of life. Major serious accidents not involving loss of life are also enquired into. In respect of dangerous occurrences, enquiries are made in respect of those which appear to require an enquiry, taking into account their impact on the safety of the mine. Responsibility is fixed in all cases where enquiry is made and further action like prosecution, suspension of competency certificates of mine officials etc. is taken, based on the result of the enquiry. Safety Regulation are revised in the light of the finding.