

lowing steps are proposed to be taken:—

- (i) The North Eastern Railway has been directed to plan for an increase in the capacity for transhipment of coal from 60 to 80 B.G. wagons per day.
- (ii) The provision of gravity transhipment facilities for the transhipment of coal and minerals at Manduadih is also being examined by the North Eastern Railway with view to eliminating short-falls which occur from time to time on account of non-availability of labour during festivals and holidays and the progressive diversion of labour to construction works now in progress at Varanasi.
- (iii) In order to stabilise the labour position, arrangements have been made for the supply of 100 labourers from the Gorakhpur Labour Depot, and as this labour is subject quasi military discipline, it will be a stabilising factor in off-setting fluctuations in the supply of labour on festivals and holidays.
- (iv) Consumers have been advised to take coal regularly throughout the year.

HMT WATCHES

*790. SHRI N. PATRA: Will the Ministry of INDUSTRY AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Hindustan Machine Tools wrist watches sold during the year 1964 from the Delhi Sale Section of the Hindustan Machine Tools Ltd.; and

(b) how many of such watches were deposited for repair during this period

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY ENGINEERING AND INDUSTRY IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND SUPPLY (SHRI T. N. SINGH): (a) 30,695 HMT wrist watches were sold during the year 1964, till November, 30, from the Delhi Sales Office of the Hindustan Machine Tools Ltd.

(b) 2,076 watches were deposited with the Delhi Sales Office for repairs during the same period, irrespective of the year or place of sale.

SUPPLY OF SAFETY LAMPS TO MINERS

*792. { SHRI NIREN GHOSH:
SHRI M. BASAVAPUN-
NAIAH;
SHRI P. RAMAMURTI:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Inspector of Mines issued a circular to coal mine owners to supply safety lamps to miners by the end of 1964;

(b) whether the Joint Working Committee of Coal Mine Owners requested Government for granting a rise in the selling price of coal to implement the circular; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI N. SANJIVA REDDY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. During the last two years several representations in this behalf were received from the industry—but they were told that the introduction of electric cap lamps was necessary if the mines were to continue operating—and that no price increase was called for. In order to give time to the industry to implement this measure the introduction of electric cap lamps was allowed to be done in stages. A fresh representation on this subject has been received recently from the industry and is under examination.