

reference is to the number of workmen employed through contractors in categories of work covered by the bi-partite agreement adopted by the Court of Inquiry (Coal Mining Industry), it is nil. The number of contract labour employed in the excluded categories is not available.

(b) These workers are employed in overburden removal work which is excluded from the scope of the bi-partite agreement. The irregularities detected under the Payment of Wages Act are receiving attention and necessary action to rectify them is being taken.

REHABILITATION OF WORKERS

557. SHRI ARJUN ARORA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state the steps so far taken by Government to rehabilitate workers who lose their limbs in industrial accidents?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RATANLAL KISHORILAL MALAVIYA): Workers covered under the Employees' State Insurance Scheme and also colliery workers whose limbs have to be amputated due to industrial accidents are sent to the Military Artificial Limb Centre, Poona, for the supply of artificial limbs. The entire expenditure e.g. cost of artificial limbs, cost of journey to and from Poona, hospital charges, etc. is borne by the E.S.I. Corporation and the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund respectively. Other steps taken towards rehabilitation of such workers are mentioned in the attached statement.

2. As regards workers in non-coal mines, a Committee has since been set up to study the problem of rehabilitation of workers thrown out of work on account of occupational diseases or injury. The report of this Committee is still awaited.

STATEMENT

Statement showing the facilities provided under the Employees' State Insurance Scheme and Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund for rehabilitation of workers who lose their limbs in industrial accidents.

Employees' State Insurance Scheme—

- (a) Provision of necessary medical care.
- (b) Payment of disablement benefit as provided in the E.S.I. Act i.e. periodical payments to the insured person suffering from disablement as a result of employment injury.
- (c) In a few cases, provision of hand-operated tri-cycles etc. has also been sanctioned for disabled insured persons.

Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund—

- (a) Disabled colliery workers who are incapacitated to do their original work are categorized for different light jobs with their disability and efforts are made to secure alternative employment for them.
- (b) A Rehabilitation-cum-Physiotherapy Centre is attached to each of the two Central Hospitals at Dhanbad and Asansol where patients with serious injuries are given therapeutic treatment, massage, different kinds of exercises, etc. to enable them to get back the maximum functional movement of the injured limbs. In cases where injuries are such that the patients cannot get back to their previous jobs, some crafts are taught to them so that they can do some useful work and earn a living.
- (c) To remove the over-crowding in Central Hospitals and to

provide increased facilities for convalescence as well as rehabilitation, it has been decided to set up two rehabilitation-cum-convalescent homes, one for the coal fields in Bihar and West Bengal and the other for coal fields in Madhya Pradesh.

- (d) It is proposed to establish a regular rehabilitation-cum-production centre to provide better facilities for training in different trades for over 100 disabled workers.
- (e) Colliery workers who meet with death or are totally and permanently incapacitated due to accidents in coal mines are given the following benefits:—
- (i) A lump sum of Rs. 100/- to be paid immediately to the colliery worker if he/she is permanently incapacitated or to the dependents if the worker meets with death.
- (ii) A monthly allowance of Rs. 10/- for a period of three years to the colliery worker if he/she is permanently incapacitated or to the dependents if the workers meets his death.
- (iii) A monthly scholarship of Rs. 5/- in respect of each school-going child till he/she attains the age of 15 or is married whichever is earlier. In exceptional cases the scholarships may be continued to be paid till the child completes the age of 17 years.
- (f) It has been decided to allot quarters at Bijoynagar to disabled colliery workers and to charge from them rent at the concessional rate of Rs. 2/- per month per unit instead of charging the standard rent of Rs. 23/-.

In addition to the above mentioned facilities, workers in coal mines and several other categories of industrial workers are also paid compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act in cases of employment injury.

ABOLITION OF CONTRACT SYSTEM IN THE EXTERNAL PUBLICITY DIVISION

558. SHRI V. M. CHORDIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to abolish the contract system on which publicity personnel are recruited by the External Publicity Division; and

(b) if so, what would be the terms and conditions on which the present personnel are proposed to be absorbed into the Division?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU) : (a) Yes.

(b) Terms are being finalised.

PUBLICITY POSTS FUNCTIONING IN FOREIGN MISSIONS

559. SHRI V. M. CHORDIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of publicity posts functioning at present in our foreign missions continent-wise; and

(b) whether adequate publicity personnel are posted at all key stations in South and Central African States?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU) :

(a) Asia	17
Europe	12
Americas	7
Africa	9
Australia	1

Total 46