

done through contractors, wherever it considers it necessary to accomplish the work expeditiously.

MR. CHAIRMAN: They will do it both ways.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR MOVEMENT OF COAL FROM PITS

*634. SHRI SURJIT SINGH ATWAL: Will the Minister of MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state whether it is a fact that at present the arrangements for moving coal from pits are not sufficient and on account of it some of the collieries have to stop the coal raising?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND FUEL (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): No colliery has reported stoppage of coal production due to accumulation of coal stocks. Shortage of transport is there, no doubt, but Government are taking measures to increase the transport capacity progressively.

SHAFT SINKING WORK AT SUDAMDIH

*635. SHRI SURJIT SINGH ATWAL: Will the Minister of MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the shaft sinking work at Sudamdih by the Polish Engineers was stopped for some days for awaiting some decision by the National Coal Development Corporation and, therefore, the shaft sinking work will not be completed in time?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND FUEL (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): The shaft sinking work at Sudamdih was not stopped at any stage. This work is in progress according to schedule and is expected to be completed in time.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH ATWAL: May I know what the total investment on this project is?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: It is not available with me just now but it runs into several crores of rupees.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH ATWAL: May I know if the Polish concern has given any undertaking to the Government as to what will be the cost of raising coal per ton?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Yes, Sir. The cost estimates have been worked out very carefully by the Polish Party. We have got all those figures. If the hon. Member wants those figures, he will give separate notice, and I will give all the information available.

*636. [The questioner (Shri Babubhai Chinai) was absent. For answer, vide col. 3304 infra.]

HOME MINISTER'S VISIT TO KERALA

*637. SHRI P. A. SOLOMON: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he paid a visit to Kerala in the first week of July, 1962;

(b) if so, whether the visit was an official one; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what was the purpose of the visit?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI LAL BAHADUR): (a) and (b). Yes; the visit was an official one.

(c) I had visited Kerala in view of the natural interest of the Central Government in ensuring conditions of stability in that State. Towards this and I discussed with the Chief Minister and others about certain administrative and some political matters.

SHRI P. A. SOLOMON: May I know whether the hon. Minister had suggested a reshuffling or rearrangement of the portfolios of the Kerala Cabinet during his visit there?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: Well, I discussed several matters and I had to say something about this also to which reference has been made by the