

DAMAGE DONE TO MURALS IN AJANTA CAVES

*190. **SHRI P. C. MITRA:** Will the Minister of SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two murals, the 'Mother and Child before Buddha' and the 'Dying Princess' of the famous Ajanta Caves have been very badly damaged by the use of chemical-soaked brushes to remove the dirt and soots accumulated on the murals for centuries;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken against the person or persons responsible for the damage done and whether instructions have been issued to stop using such chemicals on other murals painted there; and

(c) whether there is any possibility to restore the murals to their original form?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

COAL MERCHANTS CAUGHT FOR BLACK-MARKETING IN COKE

*191. **SHRI NAWAB SINGH CHAUHAN:** Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of coal merchants in the Union Territory of Delhi who were caught for blackmarketing in coke during this winter;

(b) whether the licences of these dealers have been cancelled; if so, of how many dealers and the area in which they were doing business;

(c) the number of cases in which legal action is being taken against these dealers; and

(d) what action Government are taking for the regular supply of coke

to the dealers in Delhi to avoid hardship to the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND FUEL (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH):

(a) to (c) Eight cases of blackmarketing in soft coke came to the notice of the Delhi Administration during the winter of 1961-62. Out of these, the names of five retail dealers, in old Delhi, have been removed from the approved list of quota holders. Investigations in respect of the remaining three dealers (two in old Delhi and one in Narela, which is in outer Delhi) are still in progress. Meanwhile the quotas of coal to these dealers have been suspended.

(d) The monthly quota of soft coke and coal for small scale industries has been fixed at 20 block rakes (1500 wagons). The actual supplies during the four months were about 1300 wagons per month on the average, which is about 86% of the total quota. Now there is no shortage of soft coke in Delhi. Regular watch is, however, kept on the position of supplies of coal and coke to Delhi and ad hoc supplies are rushed whenever the situation so demands.

PENSION CASES PERTAINING TO THE DEFENCE SERVICES

*192. **SHRI GURUDEV:** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pension cases pertaining to the Defence Services pending in his Ministry on the 31st December, 1960 for disposal;

(b) how many of the cases are under dispute; and

(c) whether there are any cases in which the pension has been ordered from a date later than the date of retirement of the person concerned?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. RAGHURAMIAH):

(a) and (b) Information is not readily available at present regarding