

RAJYA SABHA

Friday, the 23rd December, 1960/the '2ncf
Pausa, 1882 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock, MR.
CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

MEMBER SWORN

Shri A. D. Mani (Madhya Pradesh).

SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

SITUATION IN THE JAMBAD COLLIERY

1. DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMA-NAND:
Will the Minister of LABOUR AND
EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the situation in the Jambad Colliery has led to police firing and the use of tear gas and has resulted in a complete breakdown of the working conditions in the colliery; if so, how many workers have been rendered unemployed; and

(b) the cause of the trouble and the names of the union or unions which are implicated in the trouble at the colliery?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI ABID ALI): (a) and (b) It is reported that when the agent of a neighbouring colliery went to the house of the manager of the Real Jambad Colliery on 14th December, 1960, some workers belonging to Colliery Mazdoor Sabha (AITUC) did not like his coming there; they suspected he acted as an adviser to the management of their colliery and tried to assault his driver. A worker who objected to this action was chased and his property looted from his house. On 15th December, 1960, when the police arrested some persons in connection with this incident, 823 RS.—I.

they were attacked and brick-batted by a large number of workers. The police took shelter in the colliery office after tear gas shells and a lathi charge proved ineffective and several of them were injured, two of them seriously. The crowd thereafter became violent, cut the telephone lines, paralysed the work of the colliery and tried to attack the quarters of some colliery peons. The colliery is working though not in full swing; about 340 workers, out of 660, have fled away and 120 arrested*

SITUATION AT THE SATGRAM COLLIERY

2. DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMA-NAND:
Will the Minister of LABOUR AND
EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the situation at the Satgram Colliery has deteriorated further during the last three days and two collieries out of the three have already closed down and the third one will be closed with effect from Monday next;

(b) whether any effective step* have been taken to arrest the trouble makers; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above is in the affirmative, what are those steps; if not, what is the reason for not taking any steps?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI ABID ALI): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) Some trouble makers were arrested and Government of West Bengal have posted police at the Colliery to prevent recurrence of trouble.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Both the questions are to be taken together.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMA-NAND: Sir, as this trouble in the Satgram colliery has spread to the Jambad colliery in a more virulent form, what steps have the Government taken with the help of the West

*For supplementaries, see cols. 3254—57 infra.

Bengal Government to make sure that it will not spread further in that part where four other collieries are located within an area of four miles, namely, Chapqui, North Brook, South Samla and East Nimcha?

SHRI ABID ALI: Sir, our industrial relations machinery is very active and is trying to restore peace with the help of the local authorities of the Government of West Bengal.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that the Regional Commissioner of Dhan-bad has reported that the situation has become very uncontrollable because of the activities of these trouble-mongers, and the police had to be withdrawn? In that case, Sir, what are the steps that the Government is taking to ensure the safety of the management as well as of the workers?

SHRI ABID ALI: On one occasion, of course, the police had to be withdrawn from one place, but the Government of West Bengal, as I have submitted earlier, will help in restoring peace there.

SHRI S. C. DEB: May I know whether it is a fact that in the event of trouble spreading to the four neighbouring collieries nearly 30 thousand tons of coal per month will be lost to the country?

SHRI ABID ALI: Yes, there will be loss in production, Sir.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: Sir, the answer given by the hon. Minister is not clear as to how this trouble originated. He said that the agent of one neighbour'ng colliery went to the house of the manager and the workers objected to it. Why did they object to it and what was the reason behind it?

SHRI ABID ALI: As I said in the course of my reply to the main question, they thought that the manager of the neighbouring colliery was giving some advice to the manager of the colliery, where this assault took place, in connection with some matter.

SHRI RATANLAL KISHORILAL MALVIYA: Is it a fact that the union was existing there already and this trouble was created by a Communist union which came into existence in Satgram in October 1960 only?

SHRI ABID ALI: In the Satgram colliery there was a recognised union, and, as I reported here a few days back, two employees of the colliery were doing money-lending business and when their activities were being checked, they invited the Communists to help them. And, Sir, the Communists did help them.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMA-NAND: Is it a fact that the Communist leader there said in his speech that the workers should go and take possession of the Thapar House in Calcutta and go and occupy the house of the manager for their meetings?

SHRI ABID ALI: Sir, according to reliable information, in a speech at this colliery on 1st October 1960, Shri Kalyan Roy, who is a known local Communist, exhorted workers to cooperate with him in occupying the 14-storeyed building of Lala Karam* Chand Thapar at Calcutta and to hold their next meeting in the manager's bungalow after driving him out. He also threatened those who did not join his union.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, how it is that the hon. Labour Minister got all these fantastic lies to be read out to Parliament, because they have no relation to truth whatsoever? You know, Sir, that that 14-storeyed building cannot be occupied by Shri Kalyan Roy or somebody else.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You put a question.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: How can I put a question on lies?

SHRI ABID ALL Sir, I might point out that his colleague in the locality is accustomed to telling lies, and the hon. Member here protects him. They have to take care of themselves.

DR. SHHIMATI SEETA PARMA-NAND: Is it a fact that two of the three collieries are watery mines and the third also, when it will be locked up from day after tomorrow, will be completely out of commission? What steps is the Government taking in that event to put them in proper working conditions, should this lockout last for some time?

SHRI ABID ALL Yes, Sir, employers are threatening to declare a lockout and our officers there are persuading them to have a little more patience so that our officers can help to restore peaceful atmosphere.

Sir, with regard to the remark of the hon. Member—he says these are lies—I do not think you are allowing it to go on record.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Is the hon. Minister of Employers, pardon me, of Labour aware of the fact that these employers and their managements are using hooligans and hirelings with the connivance of the authorities in order to break up the unions and create their own unions and thus stop all normal trade union activities there?

SHRI ABID ALL True, Sir, there are some hooligans and these moneylenders are getting support from the colleagues of my friend there.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: That is a part of the lie.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next item.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

THE MINERALS CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT (AMENDMENT) RULES, 1960

THE MINISTER OF REVENUE AND CIVIL EXPENDITURE (DR. B. GOPALA REDDI) : Sir, on behalf of Shri K. D. Malaviya, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (1) of section 28 of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957, a copy of the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Department of Mines and Fuel) Notification G.S.R. No. 1458, dated the 1st December, 1960, publishing the Minerals Conservation and Development (Amendment) Rules, 1960. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2574/60.]

RECOMMENDATIONS OF DIRECT TAXES ADMINISTRATION ENQUIRY COMMITTEE ACCEPTED BY GOVERNMENT

DR. B. GOPALA REDDI: Sir, I also beg to lay on the Table a statement showing further recommendations of the Direct Taxes Administration Enquiry Committee which have been accepted by Government either fully or with modification. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2563/60]

SYNOPSIS OF PROCEEDINGS OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES ON DRAFT THIRD FIVE YEAR PLAN

SHRI K. SANTHANAM (Madras): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the Synopsis of Proceedings of Parliamentary Committee 'A' (Policy, Resources and Allocations) on the draft Third Five Year Plan. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2579/60.]

SHRI JAIRAMDAS DAULATRAM (Nominated): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the Synopsis of Proceedings of Parliamentary Committee 'B' (Industry, Power and Transport) on the draft Third Five Year Plan. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2580/60.]

SHRI K. SANTHANAM: Sir, on behalf of Shri T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar, I beg to lay on the Table the Synopsis of Proceedings of Parliamentary Committee 'C' (Agriculture