

respective contractors under Employees' Compensation Act in case of mine accidents. Safety appliances are provided to the Contractors' workers by the contractors. Coal industry is not a scheduled industry under Minimum Wages Act, 1948. However, the wages being paid to Transport Contractors' workers are more than the minimum wages as notified by Central Govt. from time to time. The wages being paid to other Contractors' workers are at par with the minimum wages as notified by the Central Govt. from time to time. The issue regarding fixing minimum wages for coal industry has already been taken up with the Ministry of Labour & Employment.

#### **Profit sharing with affected locals**

13. SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has finalized the plan to make profit sharing with the affected locals mandatory for the companies in the coal mining sector as a compensation for area damage and displacement;

(b) if so, whether this has been accepted by the coal mining companies; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of above.

#### **Theft of coal from coalfields**

14. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are a number of theft cases in coalfields and the same is being encouraged by the anti social elements in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government has contemplated any plan to prevent theft of coal from the fields; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the follow up steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Yes, theft of coal is carried out stealthily and clandestinely.