Risk allowance to workers in hazardous industries

694. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any risk allowance is given to the workers including contract workers of hazardous industries/factories in the country particularly to the workers of Coal India Limited (CIL),Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor along with the proposal, if any, under consideration of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) to (c) As per available information, no specific risk allowance is given to the contract workers of hazardous industries/factories in the country particularly to the workers of Coal India Limited (CIL),Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC). As regards NTPC, wages/pay package of employees is a complete package in which risk factors incidental to work are factored/taken into account. There is 'Difficulties Allowance' which is paid to the workers of CIL as agreed in Bi-partite forum under National Coal Wage Agreement IX (NCWA-IX).

Safety norms for mine workers

†695. DR. SANJAY SINH : WiII the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has fixed any kind of norms for the safety of the employees working in mines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time interval after which the equipments of the employees working In mines are replaced;

(d) whether Government has any provision of compensation for the accident occurred to the employees in the mines; and .

(e) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) and (b) Director General of Mines Safety (DGMS) monitors the health and safety aspects of the equipments used in the mines. The list of equipments include almost all electrical, some mechanical, rescue and safety equipments which are generally being used in mines. New equipments, which are planned to be used in the mines by the mine managements, have to undertake field trials before they are permitted for use. These field trials are closely monitored by DGMS to assess the performance and safety aspects of the equipment. These equipments are required to conform to different standards prescribed by the Bureau of Indian Standards.

(c) As per Regulation 191 of the Coal Mines Regulation, 1957 and Regulation 182 of the Metalliferous Mines Regulation, 1961; protective footwear shall be supplied to every person working in a mineby the mine management at free of charge at intervals in exceeding six months. Similarly, as per Regulation 191 A of the Coal Mines Regulation, 1957 and Regulation 182A of the Metalliferous Mines Regulation, 1961; safety helmets shall be supplied to persons working in a mine at free of charge at intervals not exceeding three years or when the helmet is accidentally damaged during legitimate use. Other safety equipments, as per legal provisions, shall be replaced as and when they are rendered unserviceable.

(d) and (e) Adequate provisions already exist under the Employees' Compensation Act, 1923. The respective mine managements provide compensation/relief which is dealt with by the the Employees' Compensation Commissioner under Employees' Compensation Act, 1923.

Preference to contract labour

696. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of organizations in Government Departments/public/ private sectors prefer engagement of contract labour over employment on regular basis denying social benefits to such employees;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) the details of provision and law for employing contract labour in an establishment; and

(d) the State-wise details of action taken against such establishments which violate the statutory provisions under all labour laws, during each of the last three years and the current year?