

Scheme for conservation of metallurgical coal on the colliery workers?

(b) How many collieries are likely to make retrenchments on account of the Scheme?

(c) What action, if any, Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) It is not expected that the scheme for the conservation of metallurgical coal will have any serious effect on colliery workers.

(b) No large-scale retrenchment is anticipated. The Coal Board will examine the cases of all collieries in order to minimise as far as possible, the need for retrenchment.

(c) The Government do not consider any further action is necessary.

BY-PRODUCTS OF SINDRI FACTORY

***291. Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** (a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state what are the by-products of the Sindri Fertiliser Factory?

(b) How are they disposed of?

(c) What is the amount of loss due to wastage if any, of such by-products?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) The only by-product in the manufacture of Ammonium Sulphate is Calcium Carbonate Sludge. A large quantity of ash is left over from burning of coal and coke but it is a waste product, and not a by-product of the factory. A small quantity of Coke breeze is also left behind as waste.

(b) The Calcium Carbonate sludge is at present stored with a view to utilizing it for the manufacture of cement. An agreement has been entered into with Messrs. Associated Cement Companies Ltd., under which the sludge will be purchased by them at Rs. 9/- per ton. The Associated Cement Companies Ltd., will put up a cement plant at Sindri for the manufacture of 600 tons of cement per day (initially 300 tons a day).

Most of the ash is at present dumped at the marshalling yard. At one time, it was considered whether the ash would be suitable for stowing purposes in the Coal mines, but it has been found to be not suitable for this purpose as it contains some unburnt carbon. The possibility of using the ash for the manufacture of hollow being explored. Pending this investigation, a portion of the ash is being sold at Rs. 3/- per ton ex-works.

The coke breeze is burnt with coal in the Power House.

(c) There is no wastage of the by-product and the question of loss due to wastage, therefore, does not arise.

RECOGNITION OF GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

***292. Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of Government in regard to the recognition of the German Democratic Republic (East Germany); and

(b) the steps, if any, adopted or in contemplation for promotion of trade between India and the said Republic?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) The Government of India look forward to the unification of Germany and are, therefore, reluctant to take any step which might retard the process of unification. The Indian Embassy at Bonn is a continuation of the previous contacts with that area. It is also due to the fact that India's economic relations with Western Germany are of importance to her. Recognition of the East German Democratic Republic would have a certain implication that India had accepted the division of Germany as final.

(b) No special steps have been taken or are present under contemplation. Trade is proceeding satisfactorily under normal conditions obtaining in both countries.

INDIANS EMPLOYED IN FOREIGN BUSINESS HOUSES IN INDIA

***294. Shri Meghnad Saha:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether any enquiry has been recently undertaken by Government as to the terms of service, salaries and allowances of Indian employees in comparison to those of Europeans in foreign business houses in this country?

(b) What are the results of this enquiry?

(c) Is it a fact that a larger number of Europeans without the necessary qualifications are being appointed on larger salaries and allowances by business firms particularly by British firms for the past few years in preference to Indians with higher qualifications?

(d) Is it a fact that Indian employees in foreign firms discharging higher and more onerous duties are given lower scales of pay and allowances?