

(b) whether a news item alongwith a photostat copy of Janata Party coupon No. 264743 bearing rubber stamp of Shri Radhey Shyam Tripathi, Superintendent, District Jail, Kanpur, U.P. and that of a hand-written letter of a prisoner, District Jail, Kanpur alleging that Rs. 5/- were forcibly collected from him by Shri Radhey Shyam Tripathi, appeared in 'Daily Jagran' dated 18-6-77 published from Kanpur;

(c) if so, whether any action has been taken against the concerned jail officials; and

(d) if reply to (c) is in negative, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS : (SHRI CHARAN SINGH) :  
(a) The DIG (Prisons), Kanpur is making an enquiry into the matter.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). On receiving the report of the DIG (Prisons), the UP Government will decide about the action to be taken.

#### **Employment of Workers in Coal Mines through Contractors**

6055. SHRI VASANT SATHE : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of workers are engaged through contracts in coal mines in public sector and these contractors indulge in various mal-practices and thrive at the cost of labour;

(b) if so, the percentage of such labour engaged and the action taken thereon; and

(c) whether Government propose to ban employment of workers in public sector mines through contractors?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN) :  
(a) and (c). Engagement of contract labour in all prohibited categories of work in coalmines has been stopped except at some mines for loading and unloading of coal and sand, driving of stone drifts, stone cutting and miscellaneous jobs in washeries. As these jobs are casual and intermittent in nature, the employment of contract labour for them is being re-examined by the Central Contract Labour Advisory Board. A large number of workers who used to be employed by contractors have been regularised by the Coal Companies during the last two years.

(b) The jobs for which contract labour are employed are casual and intermittent in nature and, therefore, the number of workers employed for such work varies considerably from time to time. As such, the number of contract labour is not a fixed percentage of the total labour force.

#### **Employment of Kith and Kin of Employees killed/disabled in Accidents**

6056. SHRI VASANT SATHE : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Western Coalfields Workers Union *interalia* demanded provision of jobs to the kith and kin of the employees killed/disabled as a result of accidents as a matter of policy; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government to the proposal and decision taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN) :  
(a) and (b). No specific representation from the Western Coalfields Workers' Union demanding provision of jobs to the kith and kin of the employees killed/disabled as a result of accidents has been received. As a matter of policy, however, it has been decided by the Coal India to provide employment to the widow or son or daughter of the workman killed in a mine accident. This decision, as far as practicable, is being implemented.

#### **Favour to Female Junior Staff in getting training in Doordarshan**

6057. SHRI R. L. P. VERMA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether junior staff in Doordarshan specially females are getting favour in giving training while the backbone of the programme i.e. the technical categories of staff artistes are completely ignored; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Prices of Product of Multinational Companies**

6058. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :