

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). SAIL has taken several safety measures both on surface and underground at Chasnala Collieries. Some of them include the following:

- (i) Diversion of Main water jore (small stream) passing over the surface area of the mine.
- (ii) Construction of embankment on the banks of the River Damodar, to prevent flow of water to the low lying areas.
- (iii) Construction of a concrete plug dam per specifications duly approved by the Director General of Mines Safety.
- (iv) Construction of underground supports for which special steel yielding arches rolled at IISCO, Bumpur were used.
- (v) Survey of old workings which has been done jointly with Director General of Mines Safety.
- (vi) 5 bore holes with steel casing have been made to tap water from the old workings.
- (vii) As part of the modernisation plan of Chasnala, advanced technology to extract Coal from thick seams are being adopted with advice of expert foreign consultants.

(e) Does not arise.

World Hindi Conference

6877. SHRI LALL BABU RAI:
SHRI CHEDDI PASWAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many official representatives have been sent to foreign countries to participate in the World Hindi Conference;

(b) if so, the details for the last three years thereof;

(c) the expenditure incurred on these foreign visits; and

(d) the details of the work done by the official representatives in the World Hindi Conference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b). During the period under reference only one World Hindi Conference namely the Fourth World Hindi Conference was held in Mauritius from 2-4-December, 1993. A 14-member official delegation led by Shri Madhukarrao Choudhury, Speaker, Maharashtra Legislative Assembly attended the Conference.

(c) Rs. 5,27,677/- was spent on the delegation in Mauritius in connection with the Fourth World Hindi Conference.

(d) The delegates actively participated in the deliberations of the Conference.