

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES):** (a) Ozonised drinking water 250 ml. satchets is supplied with Casserole meals in the pantry cars of Kerala Express from Trivandrum to New Delhi and back w e f. 25.9.1989.

(b) and (c). Casserole meals are served in this trains. These meals are picke up from base kitchens/Refreshment Rooms enroute. It is not proposed to prepare casserole meals on these trains as base kitchens/Refreshment rooms are more suitable from the point of view of proper preparation packing and hygiene

[Translation]

#### **Ventilation System in Collieries of B.C.C.L.**

8637. **SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV.** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state

(a) whether the ventilation system in the collieries under BCCL, Dhanbad (Bihar) is inadequate and thousands of workers have become ill as a result thereof.

(b) whether the British Mining Council had visited the said collieries and given some suggestions regarding ventilation;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the steps taken by Government to improve the ventilation system on the suggestions of the British Mining Council; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN):** (a) The ventilation system in the collieries under BCCL, Dhanbad is in conformity with the provisions of the

Coal Mines Regulations 1957. However, there is room for bringing about improvements. It is not a fact that because of inadequate ventilation, thousands of workers have become ill.

(b) to (e). The British Mining Consultants have visited Moonidih mine of BCCL and given the following short-term and long-term suggestions for further improving the ventilation:

#### *Short-term suggestions:*

- i) Improving performance of existing fan by putting deflectors in fan drift;
- ii) Reducing leakage through air lock;
- iii) Widening of return airway for reducing resistance;
- iv) Installation of booster fan in high resistance district; and
- v) Bye-pass drivage for chocked return due to fall.

#### *Long-term suggestions:*

Changing the present main fan by higher capacity main fan.

B.C.C.L. are taking necessary action to implement the above suggestions.

#### **Rest Houses for Coolies on Central Railway**

8638. **SHRIMATI USHA VERMA:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a long standing demand to construct rest-houses for licensed coolies on Bhusawal, Manmad, Khandwa, Bina and Akola railway stations of Central Railway;