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THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

1395

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Friday, 18th December, 1953

The House met at Half Past One of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

MEMBER SWORN

Shrimati Ila Pal Choudhury (Nabad-wip).

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PRICE OF CARS

*1096. **Shri S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the extent to which the prices of cars assembled by the indigenous production Units have been brought down, as a result of the reduction in import duty on the component parts?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 9.]

Shri S. N. Mishra: How many manufacturing firms have submitted to the Government their manufacturing programmes, and how many of them have been accepted by Government?

Shri Karmarkar: Actually I think three, Sir.

Shri S. N. Mishra: May I know whether any export programme has been submitted by these manufacturing firms and, if so, whether any refund of import duty is also contemplated?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice of the question. But some

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time back there was a small attempt at export, but it was not very much.

Shri S. N. Mishra: May I know whether the percentage of fall in the prices can be approximately given?

Shri Karmarkar: We have given the actual figures. For instance in respect of Plymouth the price before reduction was Rs. 21,555 and after reduction it is Rs. 19,360. The detailed figures have been given in the statement. My friend could easily work out the percentage.

Shri Jethalal Joshi: Is it a fact that the car Hindustan of indigenous make, is the same as Morris with only change in name and with increased cost?

Shri Karmarkar: With this difference, that the majority of the parts are manufactured in India and no increase in cost.

LOCAL COAL CESS

*1097. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the local coal cess charged on despatches of coal from coal mines is uniform throughout the country;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the present rates of local cess in different parts of the country?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Production (Shri R. G. Dubey): (a) No.

(b) the local cesses are levied by State Governments according to their respective requirements. Some States are not levying any such cess.

(c) A statement showing the present rates of local cesses on coal levied in some of the coal producing States is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 10.]

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Do the Central Government also charge any cess on coal and, if so, for what purposes is it utilised?

Shri R. G. Dubey: There are three kinds of cess levied by the Central Government: stowing cess, labour welfare cess and rescue cess.

RUBBER

*1098. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether Government have issued any directions to the manufacturers regarding purchasing larger quantities of raw rubber?

(b) Is it a fact that by the time the manufacturers of Rubber goods started their purchases, the raw rubber stocks had been cornered by some agencies?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) No directions were issued, but the principal manufacturers were requested in an informal way to purchase larger quantities of raw rubber.

(b) Government have no information.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Four or five days back the hon. Minister while answering a question from me said that Government were aware that private agencies have cornered large stocks of rubber. May I know whether it is a fact that such agencies which cornered large stocks of rubber sold the rubber at a very high price and realised much more profits than what they could ordinarily have done?

Shri Karmarkar: About large stocks, stocks are decreasing. About prices realised I should like to have notice.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether it was on the basis of representations submitted by a deputation of rubber growers that Government informally requested the manufacturers to buy more?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, Sir, partly due to the representation. We went into the matter thoroughly and made an informal request.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether Government have any information about the deputationists themselves cornering the rubber stocks, and the amount of rubber sold by each of them?

Shri Karmarkar: I have no information on that point.

EXPLOSIVES LABORATORY

*1099. **Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Laboratory has been set up in Calcutta for the examination of bombs and explosive substances recovered in West Bengal and the neighbouring States; and

(b) if so, when and what work has been done so far?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Such a laboratory has been set up since November 1951 as part of the Central Explosives Department. It has helped the Department in the chemical analyses of various types of explosives, such as fire-works, live bombs and crackers containing prohibited mixtures, exploded bombs, etc.

श्री एम्. एल्. खिबेदी : क्या में पूछ सकता हूँ कि इस फैक्टरी में जो फायर वर्क्स बनाए जाते हैं, वह क्या बेचे भी जाते हैं । और यदि हाँ तो अभी तक कितने रुपये के बेचे गये ?