

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

Acc. No. 25019

Dated 18.11.2014

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

645

646

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Monday, 9th June, 1952

The House met at a Quarter Past
Eight of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

MEMBER SWORN

Shrimati Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit
[Lucknow District (Central)].

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

COCOANUT PRICES

*574. **Shri Velayudhan:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what action Government took to see that the price of coconut does not fall further?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): Government could take no action since the fall in the price of coconut was a part of the general fall in prices, the causes of which were beyond our control.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether the price of coconut began to fall considerably after allowing imports of coconut and coconut oil from Ceylon and Malaya into India freely?

Shri Karmarkar: No, Sir.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know what quantity of coconut and coconut oil was imported into India from Ceylon and Malaya after the bilateral agreement entered into with these countries in the matter of the import of coconut and coconut oil?

Shri Karmarkar: In respect of the particular quantities imported from Ceylon and Malaya I should like to have notice.

Shri Punnoose: May I know the price of coconut and coconut oil during the last four years?

Shri Karmarkar: I shall oblige the hon. Member for two years. The price of coconut oil (Cochin), as compared with the pre-war price of Rs. 63-9, was Rs. 616-9 in April 1950 and Rs. 413 in May 1952. In between these two dates the price has fallen.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know whether there has been a reduction both in the import duty as well as the tariff duty on copra?

Shri Karmarkar: I suppose tariff duty and import duty are the same, and there has been a reduction recently.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know whether the Government consulted the Coconut Committee before changing the former policy regarding imports?

Shri Karmarkar: I am not sure, Sir.

Shri Nambiar: In view of the fact that this fall has created a serious situation among the growers, may I know whether Government propose to reconsider this question of tariff?

Mr. Speaker: He is making a suggestion.

Shri Pocker Saheb: May I know whether Government has considered the advisability of restoring the import duty on copra?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. That is also a suggestion.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether the soap manufacturers of India were demanding a lowering down of the duty on copra from Ceylon?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, Sir. They did urge for that with a view to lowering prices.

PRODUCTION OF METALLURGICAL COAL

*575. **Shri Velayudhan:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to