

employment if section 46 of the Indian Mines Act, 1952, which provides that no woman shall be employed at any time of the day or night in any part of the mine which is below the adjacent ground level, is enforced, it has been decided to permit employment of women in open cast workings only, by issuing an exemption order under section 83 of the Act.

**REPRESENTATION FROM HINDUSTAN MOTORS LTD.**

**\*2267. Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) details of representation, if any, made by Messrs. Hindustan Motors Ltd. before and after closing down production;

(b) whether cars produced by this factory are cheaper than other cars of similar horse-power (i) imported from abroad or (ii) assembled in India;

(c) whether any other Indian producers have made comparable representations to Government;

(d) whether steps are contemplated to restrict import of cars; and

(e) whether Government have any plan to build automobile factories as State enterprises?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) Certain representations were made by this firm in April, 1952, in which *inter alia* they stated that unless their stock position altered for the better they would have to close down. They have followed this up with other communications.

(b) The list price of Hindustan Cars is Rs. 11,075. Other makes of similar category are listed at higher prices.

(c) Some of the assemblers have made representations regarding similar and other matters.

(d) The import policy for the second half of 1952 has not yet been announced.

(e) No, Sir.

**FURNACE OIL**

**\*2268. Dr. Amin:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of furnace oil imported from different countries during January—December 1950, January—December 1951 and January—June 1952 periods;

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(b) the names of the firms, which imported furnace oil, the quantity imported and the price charged at the port of import including duty during the above mentioned periods;

(c) the average consumer prices per ton at the places of export, the shipping freights per ton and the import duty per ton during the above mentioned periods;

(d) whether it is a fact that the monopoly of the oil companies is working against the interests of our country; and

(e) if the answer to part (d) above be in the affirmative, what action Government propose to take to break this monopoly?

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh):** (a) to (c). Three statements giving the required information are placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix X, annexure No. 52.]

(d) No.

(e) The question does not arise.

**BONE-MEAL**

**\*2269. Shri U. M. Trivedi:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an export duty on bones in Madhya Bharat;

(b) whether there is a ban on export of bones from Rajasthan; and

(c) what has been the effect of this on the bone-meal factories of Madhya Bharat?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):**

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

**GROUNDNUT (EXPORT)**

**\*2270. Shri Muniswamy:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether producers of groundnuts in India are given facilities to sell their products outside India independently of professional export firms;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, which are the producers' organisations that are doing such business; and