

Prices of Hydro-Sulphite of Soda

2219. SHRI VIRENDRAKUMAR SHAH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the ruling price of Hydro-sulphite of soda is abnormally high ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Travancore-Cochin Chemicals Limited has recently increased the price of the above chemical manufactured by it from Rs. 10.50 per Kg. to Rs. 17.50 per Kg., an increase of 67 per cent, not because its cost of production has gone up, but because it can take advantage of the market situation ;

(c) if so, whether such a price increase is a clear case of profiteering ; and

(d) whether profiteering even by a public sector undertaking is harmful to the community and whether Government would take necessary steps to reduce the inflated price to its original level ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) Yes, Sir, but the price is now coming down because of import through the State Trading Corporation.

(b) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Invention of device to reduce running Expenses of Automobiles

2220. SHRI R. K. BIRLA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the device, designed and developed by an Indian Police Official to reduce the running expenses of automobiles is to be manufactured soon on a commercial scale in Great Britain ;

(b) if so, the name of the official and what are the details of the device ;

(c) whether any incentive is to be given to the inventor to put into force his device in India ;

(d) if so, what incentive is proposed to be given ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) and (b). A device has been designed and developed by Shri J. R. Chhabra, an Indian Police Official, in collaboration with a British firm. The Government of India are, however, not aware of commercial exploitation of the device in Great Britain.

The device is in the shape of an insertion in the fuel system of an internal combustion engine which uses petrol or diesel oil. It is claimed by the inventor that this device would ensure complete combustion without any wastage of the fuel used and will also improve the efficiency of the engine.

(c) to (e). The Inventions Promotion Board, which is under the administrative control of the Department of Industrial Development has given financial assistance of about Rs. 7000 to the inventor to enable him to make a prototype of the device. The further processing of the invention is now being done by the Inventions Promotion Board in consultation with the concerned agencies in the country.

Contesting Municipal Election by a Western Railway Employee at Bhavnagar (Gujarat) in 1957

2221. SHRI A. SREEDHARAN ;
SHRI P. N. SOLANKI ;
SHRI YASHPAL SINGH ;
SHRI ONKAR LAL BERWA ;
SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD ;
SHRI MAHARAJ SINGH
BHARATI ;
SHRI GUNANAND
THAKUR ;

SHRI DEVEN SEN ;
SHRI KIKAR SINGH ;
SHRI S. KUNDU ;
SHRI P.M. MEHTA ;
SHRI TENNETI VISWANATHAM ;

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a Memorandum by 98 Member of Parliament belonging to almost all the Political Parties and Independents was submitted to the President of India in January, 1967 in connection with a Railway employee who contested the Municipal Election at Bhavnagar (Gujarat) in 1957;

(b) if so, their names and party affiliations;

(c) whether a copy of the said Memorandum would be laid on the Table of the House;

(d) the details of the case and the Memorandum and whether it is a fact that serious charges were levelled against the successive Railway Ministers and Railway officials for misusing their powers as also for giving misleading information from time to time;

(e) whether in the Memorandum a request was made for the appointment of a High Power Commission consisting of a Supreme Court Judge for going through the case and the charges levelled against the Ministers and Officials; and

(f) if so, the action taken by Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND RAILWAYS (SHRI GOVINDA MENON) : (a) Yes.

(b) to (f). Information is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Working results of Khadi Gramodyog Bhavans at Delhi and Calcutta

2222. SHRI BENI SHANKAR SHARMA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL

TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of capital invested in the Khadi Gramodyog Bhavans at Delhi and Calcutta.

(b) the profit or loss made by each during the last three years;

(c) the number of people directly employed by each; and

(d) the number of spinners and weavers and other people indirectly employed and benefited by each of them ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

पूँजी पतियों को दिये गये लाइसेंसों के बारे में उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री द्वारा कथित आलोचना

2223. श्री मोलहू प्रसाद : क्या औद्योगिक विकास, आन्तरिक व्यापार तथा समवाय कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 12 सितम्बर, 1969 को वाराणसी के दैनिक समाचार पत्र "आज" में प्रकाशित हुए इस आशय के समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है कि उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री ने केन्द्रीय सरकार की आलोचना करते हुए यह बताया जाता है कि बड़े पूँजी पतियों को स्वर्गीय जवाहरलाल नेहरू तथा स्वर्गीय लाल बहादुर शास्त्री और वर्तमान प्रधान मंत्री के शासन काल में लाइसेंस दिये गये थे ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है और इस आलोचना का खंडन करने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?