

Use of Spurious Quality of Steel Utensils

120. CH. KHURSHID AHMED: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that spurious and inferior quality of steel utensils have flooded the wholesale market in various parts of the country, the use of which can cause poisoning;

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government to identify the manufacturers of the substandard and spurious steel utensils which are injurious to health; and

(c) what measures have been taken by Government to strictly monitor the quality control and to rigorously enforce the standards laid down in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) (a) and (b). No complaints have been received by the Government in regard to the inferior quality of steel utensils being marketed in the country.

(c) In order to enable the manufacturers to maintain the quality of the product, BIS have formulated a number of Indian Standards on Steel Utensils. Further, the supply of inferior quality of steel utensils, if any, causing health hazards are already governed under the provisions of the rule 49(2) of the PFA Rules, 1955.

Price of Tyres

121. CH. KHURSHID AHMED:
SHRI HET RAM:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the comparative percentage increase in the prices of tyres of various types of vehicles from 1986 to 1989, till date;

(b) the considerations to delicense tyre industry when there has been repeated increase in the prices of automobile tyres and particularly when, with delicensing, there would be no control on the prices of tyres;

(c) whether Government propose to expand the existing capacity and open more tyre manufacturing units in the public sector to contain the prices of tyres; and

(d) if so, the decision taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) (a): According to Automotive Tyre Manufacturers Association (ATMA), Net Dealer's prices of various categories of tyres had been increased by the tyre manufacturers approximately by 5% in April-May 1986, 7% in July 1987, 6% in October 1988 and 4% in June, 1989.

(b) There is no statutory control over the prices of automobile tyres. The automobiles tyres and tubes industry has been delicensed so as to encourage creation of additional capacity in order to allow market forces to have free play.

(c) and (d). No proposal to expand the existing capacity or to open more tyre manufacturing units in the public sector is pending with the Government.

Demand and Supply of Power In States

122. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state: