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Price of Cement

3094. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Uttar Pradesh Government has requested Union Government to ask the cement producers to apply voluntary price control;

(b) if so, whether Government have considered such request so far; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

[English]

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Bhatty Committee on Trade Margins

3095. SHRI KALPNATH SONKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the finding of the Bhatti Committee on trade margins of medicines and when these were submitted;

(b) the expenditure incurred by Government on the Committee;

(c) whether his Ministry revised the trade margins without waiting for the finding of this Committee; and

(d) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) The draft report, which was submitted in March, 1990, is under

consideration of the Government.

(b) The cost of this study is Rs. 5.6 lakhs.

(c) and (d). The trade margin under the Drugs (Price Control) Order, 1987 was increased in March, 1988 in view of the increase in the MAPE available to the industry. This increase was based in the light of the recommendations made by the Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. Vijay Kelkar, Chairman, BICP. The Bhatti Committee was, however, appointed by the Government in September, 1988.

[Translation]

114 Maharashtra
Vallarpur Open Cost Coal Mine

3096. DR. KHUSHAL PARASRAM BOPCHE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vallarpur open cast coal mine in Maharashtra was flooded with rain water on 18 June, 1990;

(b) whether Government have made investigations in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated loss suffered on this account?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Ballarpur Opencast mine was flooded on 18.6.90 due to unprecedented rain.

(b) Western Coalfields Limited has constituted an enquiry committee to investigate into the circumstances leading to the flooding of the mine. The Directorate General of Mines Safety is also conducting an enquiry into the incident.