outlets in order to counter any tendency sowards hoarding and black marketing. The State Governments of Assam, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Rajasthau, Sikkim, West Bengal, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura and Union Territories of Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram have taken over cement distribution with effect from 1-10-1978. The State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh will be switching over to public distribution of cement from 1-1-1979. Other States are still considering the matter.

The system followed in public distribution of cement varies from State to State according to local circumstances and needs. However, the sessential features present in most of the schemes are statutory licensing of cement stockists, direct appointment of cement stockists by State Government or its agencies, introduction of permit system for sale of cement to consumers, creation of voluntary agencies to advise regarding public distribution and strengthening of administrative machinery for proper implementation of the scheme and for prevention of malpractices. The question of retaining the existing Stockists who and dealers other than those considered unsuitable will be decided by the State Governments on merits.

विशाखापत्तनम नौसैनिक यार्ड में प्रवेश के लिए चीन के मालवाहक जहाज को सनुमति देना

4219. श्री सुरेन्द्र विकम : क्या
रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि
जलाई, 1978 में विशाखापत्तनम नौसनिक
यार्ड में प्रवेश के लिए चीन के मालवाहन
जहाज को श्रनुमति देने के क्या कारण थे
जब तक कि बिगत में इस क्षेत्र में किसी
विदेशी जहाज को कभी भी प्रवेश करने की
श्रनुमनि नहीं दी गई थी और इसके लिए
श्रनुमति देने के लिए कौन व्यक्ति जिम्मेदार
है ?

रका मंत्री (भी जगजीवन राम) जुन-जुलाई, 1978 के दौरान चीन का एक माल वाहक जलयान वाणिज्यिक प्रयोजनों से विशाखापत्तनम बन्दरगाह पर ठहरा था । जलयान विशाखापत्तनम के नौ-सनिक यार्ड में नहीं ठहरा था

Prices of pulses at D.I.D. Race Course,

4220. SHRI U.S. PATIL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to

- (a) whether it is a fact that the prevalent price of pulses of various kinds at the Detailed Issue Depot, Race Course Road, New Delhi is higher than the price of the pulses at the Fair Price Shops in Delhi and all the varieties of pulses are not available at the D.I.D. Depot; if so, what is the present price of Moong, Urad, Arhar, Malka Masoor, Kabli and Black gram at present and during the menths of August, September, October, November, 1977 and 1978; and
- (b) whether it is also a fact that this higher prices of essential commodities at the D.I.D. Depot has affected the sales of this Depot; if so, what is the month-wise sales of various items at the Depot during the last six months?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) The present payment issue prices of pulses at DID, New Delhi are slightly higher than the prices in the fair price shops in Delhi. Certain varieties of pulses are presently not available at the DID. The present prices and those prevalent during the months August to November 1977 and 1978 are indicated in Statement I laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3100/78]. Kabuli Channa and black gram are not provisioned at this unit for issue on payment.

(b) It is correct that higher prices in DID have affected the sales in that Depot during the past six months. The details of the sales of major items sold from DID from June 1978 onward is indicated in Statement II laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3100/78].

Opening of Textile Mills in Punjab

4221. SHRI IOBAL SINGH DHILLON: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Punjab Government have submitted a proposal to the Central Government to open new textile mills in Punjab; and
- (b) if so, the details of the proposal and the reaction of Government of India thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI ABHA MAITI): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.