

maintenance of shrines and holy places in India and Pakistan at an Inter-Dominion Conference, but subsequently turned down the proposal for the reason that the matters proposed for discussion were either already agreed upon or were under scrutiny of a separate body. The Government of India have again impressed on the Government of Pakistan the need for holding such a Conference and are awaiting their reply.

STEEL PIPES AND TUBES (PRICES)

36. Dr. Amin: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that steel pipes and tubes of the same size and type are sold by various stockists at different prices even though there is price control over their distribution;

(b) whether Government have considered the possibility that importers, by furnishing fictitious invoices, may have their prices approved by the Government while at the same time in collaboration with foreign shippers, they may have reserved the margin of profit and allowed it to accumulate in foreign countries, thus extensively raising the prices to the Indian consumer; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether Government propose to devise some means for bringing about uniformity in the prices of pipes and tubes, the distribution of which is controlled by the Government?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) to (c). Indigenous production being negligible, Indian requirements of steel pipes and tubes are met almost entirely by imports. The controlled prices at which dealers are required to sell the pipes and tubes are based on the landed cost of the relevant consignment. The landed cost being different in each case depending on the time and country of import, it is inevitable that the controlled prices of the same size and type of tubes sold by various stockists sometimes differ.

It is not proposed to fix a uniform controlled price owing to the difficulties involved.

I recognise that there is a possibility that importers, by furnishing fictitious invoices in collusion with the foreign suppliers, may get their prices fixed at unjustifiably high levels, but with Government's present policy of issuing licences for imports freely and consequent competition amongst the various importers, we need have

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no great apprehensions in the matter.

REPRESENTATION BY PAKISTAN REFUGEE ASSOCIATION

37. Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a representation of grievances made recently by the Pakistan Refugee Association (Bihar), Bhagalpore, and whether any steps are being taken in regard thereto?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): The representation was referred to the Government of Bihar whose comments are awaited.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

38. Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: (a) Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state how many community projects have so far been started and in what States and what districts?

(b) What States and Districts are to have community projects in the next instalment if decisions have been taken in this respect?

(c) Has any organisation been set up to evaluate the results of the working of these projects?

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): (a) A list giving the information is placed on the Table of the House [See Appendix I, annexure No. 39].

(b) The matter is under consideration.

(c) Yes.

A.I.R. STATIONS AT KOZHIKODE AND TRIVANDRUM

39. Shri N. P. Damodaran: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons employed under the various branches of the All India Radio in Kozhikode and Trivandrum (giving comparative figures);

(b) the time allotted for the various programmes in each of the stations at Kozhikode and Trivandrum (giving comparative time under each item);

(c) the total amounts spent on each of the stations at Kozhikode and Trivandrum during 1950-51 and 1951-52; and

(d) the amounts spent in relaying programmes from Trivandrum to Kozhikode and from Kozhikode to Trivandrum, separately?