

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH): (a) and (b). The Madras Atomic Power Project at Kalpakkam is still under construction. The second unit of the Rajasthan Atomic Power Station is being test run. Of the remaining 3 reactors which are in commercial operation, the two of the Tarapur Atomic Power Station are capable of operating at full capacity and the one of the Rajasthan Atomic Power Station is operating at near full capacity. The TAPS reactors are being operated at a lower capacity to conserve the available fuel in view of the uncertainties in supplies of enriched uranium from USA.

Certain technical and other problems do arise and suitable short and long-term measures are being implemented as and when necessary to rectify these problems.

Increase in prices of various types of Tyres

3332. SHRI K LAKKAPPA:

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been unprecedented increase in the prices of various types of Tyres during the last three years in the country;

(b) whether maximum rise in all categories of tyres has been done by Modi Industries;

(e) if so, reasons thereof;

(d) whether maximum rise in all categories of tyres and particularly in Tractor Tyre has been done by CEAT, and Dunlop also;

(e) if so, reasons therefor;

(f) whether Government propose to review the prices increased by both the companies; and

(g) what steps Government propose to take to bring the prices of tyres to a reasonable level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) to (e). All the tyre manufacturing companies, have increased the prices of automobile tyres and tubes during the last three years on different occasions. By and large, the price increase effected by the manufacturing companies are comparable, although in certain sizes of automobile tyres the incidence of price increase effected by M/s Modi Rubber Limited and the price increase in respect of certain sizes of tractor tyres by CEAT and Dunlop and somewhat higher than some of the others.

(f) and (g). There is no statutory control on the prices of tyres and tubes. However, Government have impressed upon the manufacturers the need of maintaining prices at a reasonable level.

Obsolete Armaments Lying in Depots

3333. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the press report appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 22nd September, 1980 that obsolete armaments lying in various godowns depots in the country are to be sold;

(b) full details thereof; and

(c) whether these goods are worth crores of rupees, if so, what action Government have taken to dispose of the said goods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). 1425 items of the Army and 7 items of the Air Force in different quantities are awaiting disposal. The total value of these goods is about Rs. 18 crores. Action is being taken to dispose of these goods according to the prescribed procedure.