

Proposal to Subsidies Power for Aluminium Units

3729. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre has decided or proposes to subsidise power for aluminium units;

(b) if so, what are the financial implications of this proposal;

(c) whether this will help the aluminium industry to pass on the benefit to the consumers also; and

(d) if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The tariff on power for aluminium smelters is payable in accordance with the contracts between the aluminium producers and the Electricity Boards concerned. There is no proposal with

the Central Government to subsidise the cost of power used in the smelters.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Comparative Price of Imported and Indigenous Coal

3730. SHRI A. T. PATIL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state the comparative prices of imported and indigenous coal prior to 17th July, 1979 and thereafter?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): The question presumably relates to coking coal, which variety of coal alone we are importing.

The prices of indigenous coking coal revised with effect from 17th July, 1979 are as follows:—

Ash content	Price per tonne of run of mine coal (in Rs.)
Not exceeding 15%	150
15% to 18%	145
19% to 21%	140
22% to 24%	132
25% to 28%	Not exceeding 125
29% to 35%	Not exceeding 112

The price of washed coking coal is currently in the range of Rs. 240 to Rs. 262 per tonne.

Ltd. is a public limited company and.

price of the 1.2 million imported during 1978-79 and 1979-80 (with spill over upto May, 1980), the prices were as follows:

FOB (in US per tonne)	Landed Cost (in Rs. per tonne)
From Australia 43.95	700
From Canada 48.72	780

Request to Increase Price of Rubber

3731(H). SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that North India Rubber Producers Association has requested Government to increase the price of rubber;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to consider their request;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to increase rubber price; and

(d) if so, the extent to which it will be increased and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.