

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) and (b). The management of public sector enterprises while negotiating with their respective Trade Union keep in view the broad parameters of wage policy as indicated by Government from time to time. Any change in the pay structure requires approval of Government. As conditions of work vary considerably depending upon the location and nature of the enterprise, while approving wage revision proposals, care is taken to eliminate unjustified distortions and rationalise the pay structure. The effort is to reduce distortions rather than to introduce uniformity.

Missing of Mercury Lamps from HISCO, Burnpur

2868. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the mercury lamps are missing daily from HISCO's slag bank area of Burnpur;

(b) whether Government are aware that these lamps are necessary for avoiding the accident;

(c) if so, whether Government have conducted any enquiry into this affair; and

(d) if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Import of Copra and Coconut Oil

2869. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) in the quantity of coconut oil and copra imported to India during the year 1980-81;

(b) the quantity thereof imported during the last six months thereof;

(c) what was the price of coconut at the time of the import; and what is the price at present;

(d) are coconut growers of Kerala getting remunerative price for this crop at present; and

(e) if not, the remedy proposed?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Import statistics for this period has not yet been compiled. The information will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The price of Coconut (with husk) in Cochin market was quoted at Rs. 1325/- per 1000 Nos. in August 1981, as against Rs. 1350/- six months earlier in February 1981 and Rs. 1150/- in January 1980.

(d) No recent study has been carried out by the Central Government in this regard. However, the prices quoted above do not establish a situation unfavourable to the growers of coconuts.

(e) Does not arise.

News item Captioned "Black market in Air Tickets"

2870. SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Black market in Air Tickets" in the Statesman (Calcutta Edition) dated 26th May, 1981;

(b) if so, facts thereof; and

(c) what is the reaction of Government thereto?