

undertake a study of parliamentary privileges in its application to the press and the citizen in recent times;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGAN NATH KAUSHAL): (a) and (b) The Indian Law Institute did not undertake any study on Parliamentary privileges at the instance of the Law Commission.

#### Patients treated in Central Hospital

2670. SHRI A. K. ROY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) numbers of indoor patients treated in the Central Hospital Dhanbad in the year 1980 and 81 and first 6 months of

1982 and the number of deaths in the same periods;

(b) whether there is sudden deterioration in the standard of treatment in the Central Hospital creating panic and resentment amongst the workers of the colliery for whose treatment the hospital was constructed;

(c) if so, steps taken thereon; and

(d) whether Government propose to make a thorough probe into the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA): (a) The number of patients treated and number of deaths in Central Hospital, Dhanbad, are given below:—

Year	Patients treated	No. of deaths
1980 . . . . .	13967	634
1981 . . . . .	12800	454
From 1-1-1982 to 30-6-1982 . . . . .	6296	253

(b) There is no deterioration in the standard of treatment. Instead, improvements have been made by providing new bedsteads, dunlopillo beds, stainless steel thalis, hot food trolleys, increase in grant of medicines and payment of diet charges, generator, 24-hour water supply, posting of more specialists etc.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

#### Selling Price of Imported Soda Ash fixed by C.P.C.

2671. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Minister stated in Rajya Sabha on 18-12-81 in reply to a Calling Attention Motion that CPC could not sell 8,000 tonnes out

of 10,000 tonnes of soda ash imported even at a price less than Rs. 2,000 per tonne;

(b) if so, how CPC intimated the All India Silicate Manufacturers Association that Government have fixed the price ex-Kandla at Rs. 2250 per tonne exclusive of taxes, levies, etc;

(c) will Government explain the discrepancy in price fixation;

(d) whether it is a fact that ex-Kandla price per tonne intimated by CPC is higher than the ex-factory price of Tata Chemicals, Saurashtra Chemicals and Dhrangadhra Chemicals; and

(e) if so, how Government expect to dispose of the balance of imported stock?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The price fixed at that time was Rs. 2250/- per tonne ex-godown Kandla. The State Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Corporation (now Chemical Division of the State Trading Corporation of India) informed the all India Silicate Manufacturers' Association accordingly.

(c) There was no discrepancy in price fixation.

(d) The ex-works price of soda ash light produced by M/s. Tata Chemicals, M/s. Saurashtra Chemicals & M/s. Dhrangadhra Chemicals were in the range of Rs. 2142.76 to Rs. 2207.32 per tonne in July, 1981. The price of soda ash imported by CPC (STC) was fixed at Rs. 2250/- per tonne ex-godown Kandla on the basis of actual cost plus CPC's margin and warehousing charges.

(e) The price per tonne of the balance quantity of soda ash imported by CPC (STC) has now been revised down to Rs. 1,800/- per tonne ex-godown Kandla and Anjar, Gujarat. The CPC (STC) has issued Press Advertisements inviting tenders from all actual users.

**Enquiry into Voltas, Guest Keen Williams and Pieco Electronics and Electricals Ltd. by M.R.T.P. Commission**

2672. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have referred to the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission applications from three more large companies—Voltas, Guest Keen Williams and Pieco Electronics and Electricals Ltd. for enquiry and report;

(b) if so, what are the main points referred by the Ministry to the said Commission; and

(c) if so, what are the Commission's recommendations after their enquiry into these big firms?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGANNATH KAUSHAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the proposals referred to the Commission for further enquiry and report are indicated in these attached statement.

(c) The Commission have yet to submit its recommendations on the aforesaid three proposals.