

Patent and Registration Office

1746. **Shri S. A. Mehdi**: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Patent and Registration Office is not allowing firms to have the word "National" with the names of their organisations and firms; and

(b) if so, why this restriction has been imposed?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b). There is no occasion for either the Patent Office or the Trade Marks Registry to take objection to the use of the word "National" in the name of an organisation or firm, as these offices are not concerned with the names of firms or other bodies. The registration of the word "National" as a trade mark is, however, not allowed, as it is likely to cause confusion and deception.

The use of the word "National" in the name of a Company applying for registration under the Companies Act, 1956, is also not allowed, if it suggests any connection with a government department or implies governmental patronage.

Indians in London

1747. **Shri S. A. Mehdi**: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian nationals are not allowed to own property in some areas of London;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same; and

(c) the action taken in the matter?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) to (c). There is no bar to Indian nationals owning property in any area of London.

High Cost of Production

1748. **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri**: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the issue of high cost of production is to be examined thoroughly to ensure production of cheaper goods to enable the Indian Industry to compete with foreign goods; and

(b) if so, the nature of steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). It is proposed to make a study of the cost of production in certain selected industries like, Cotton Textiles, Sugar, Cement, Rayon, Jute Textiles, Bicycles, Electric Motors and Transformers by constituting *ad hoc* Study Groups. The constitution of these Study Groups and their terms of reference are being finalised.

Nepal Prime Minister's Visit

1749. **Shri P. C. Borooah**: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have extended an invitation to the Prime Minister of Nepal to pay a visit to India and that the Prime Minister of Nepal has accepted the invitation; and

(b) if so, what topics are likely to be discussed with the Prime Minister of Nepal?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Yes, Sir. The Prime Minister of Nepal, Shri B. P. Koirala is expected to visit India in January 1960, in response to the invitation extended to him by the Government of India. The precise date of his arrival in Delhi has not yet been finalised.

(b) No formal agenda is being drawn up. The talks will cover matters of mutual interest.