

के मुख्य वर्गों के आधार पर वर्गीकृत रूप में दिया गया है।

(ग) ऐसा कोई मामला ध्यान में नहीं आया है।

(घ) प्रश्न उत्पन्न नहीं होता।

Assurances for maintaining prices

2907. **Shri Madhu Limaye:**
Shri Kishan Pattanayak:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1529 on the 5th August, 1966 and state:

(a) which of the manufacturers who gave an assurance to the Prime Minister "that they will maintain the prices of their products inspite of the devaluation" have not kept this assurance and have increased their prices;

(b) the position in respect of price-rise at present; and

(c) whether Government are satisfied that the consumers were freely getting these products on the 2nd July, 1966 at the prices mentioned in the reply to the question referred to above?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) As per assurances given, for about 2 months following devaluation, the manufacturers by and large, maintained the prices:

The important changes that have since taken place are as follows:

The Manufacturers of Vanaspati and toilet/washing soap and cotton textiles revised their prices upwardly with effect from 19th August, 1966, 8th September, 1966 and 1st October, 1966 respectively.

Vanaspati manufacturers however brought down the prices with effect from 1st October, 1966 which more or less neutralised the increase which took place from 15th August, 1966. Again from 1st November, 1966 a fur-

ther price reduction was made in November, 1966 by about 25 paise per Kg. in all the 4 zones—North, South, East and West.

Soap manufacturers have also reduced the prices from 15th November, 1966 by 20 paise per Kg. on toilet soap and 12 paise per Kg. on washing soap though this has not neutralised the recent price increase.

As regards cotton textiles Government agreed to the upward revision of prices by manufacturers on controlled categories of cloth to the extent of 6 per cent due to increased cost of production. It has, however, at the same time been decided to withdraw the excise duty on dhoties, sarees and other popular varieties to cushion the price increase so that prices to be paid by the consumer would go up by 3 to 5 per cent.

(b) A statement showing the wholesale prices of selected commodities for the country as a whole and retail prices of selected commodities in Delhi is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7500/66].

(c) While there have been some reports of shortages in some of the commodities occasionally at certain places, these were generally available to the consumers at the prices referred to in the statement.

Neyveli Thermal Power Station

2908. **Shri Yashpal Singh:** Will the Minister of Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Neyveli Thermal Power Station is going to be constructed according to the schedule; and

(b) if so, when the project would be completed?

The Minister of Mines and Metals (Shri S. K. Dey): (a) The Neyveli Thermal Power Station is already in operation. Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to the third stage of its expansion. This is expected to be completed according to schedule. .

(b) It is expected to be completed by March, 1969.

Overbridge at Railway crossing on Mehrauli Road, New Delhi

2909. **Shri Yashpal Singh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 393 on the 26th February, 1965 and state:

(a) whether the work on the construction of an overbridge at the railway crossing on Mehrauli Road near Safdarjang Aerodrome has been started; and

(b) if not, the reason for the delay?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Sham Nath): (a) No.

(b) The original plan provided for the construction of an underbridge. Detailed survey and investigation showed that the level of sub-soil water at the site was very high, leading to special problems of foundations. The original estimate for construction of an underbridge has, therefore, been very much exceeded. In view of this, the question whether an overbridge may be constructed instead is receiving attention.

The construction of an underbridge may take several years but if it is eventually decided to have an overbridge, the cost as well as the time required will be considerably reduced.

Subsidy for Export of Plastic Goods

2910. **Dr. M. M. Das:**
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether Plastic goods are exported from India;

(b) whether subsidy to the extent of 120 p.c. is given by Government for this export; and

(c) if so, the justification of giving such a high subsidy?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Foreign Collaboration

2911. **Dr. M. M. Das:**
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industrial concerns set up in the country after independence in collaboration with foreign firms and Governments in the private and the public sector separately;

(b) the amounts of foreign capital invested in these companies in the private and public sectors separately; and

(c) how many of them are exporting their finished products?

The Minister of Industry (Shri D. Sanjivayya): (a) to (c). Information was furnished in fulfilment of the Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1049 answered on the 12th March, 1965. There is no change in the position explained therein. The publication of the Survey undertaken by the Reserve Bank of India in this regard is likely to take a little more time.

Information regarding exporting firms is published from time to time in the Directory of Exporters.

Import of Raw Silk

2912 **Dr. M. M. Das:**
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: