

in rice milling. The mill in Purnea also will have the same capacity and is based on modern technology in rice milling.

13.36 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. DECISION OF GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TARIFF COMMISSION ON THE CEMENT INDUSTRY

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM) Sir, I lay on the Table a Statement regarding decision of the Government on recommendations of the Tariff Commission on the Cement Industry.

STATEMENT

The last enquiry by the Tariff Commission into the price structure of the cement industry was in 1961, since the last enquiry, there have been significant changes in the circumstances of the industry. In April 1972, the Tariff Commission was requested to undertake a comprehensive review of the industry with a view to ensure the development of the cement industry in a measure and in a manner that would enable the requirements (including exports) to be met adequately at a minimum cost to the economy. The Commission had also been requested to make recommendations of an interim nature pending the submission of their final report.

In March 1973, the Commission made an interim report which was limited to an assessment of the increase in costs to be provided for as immediate relief to the industry. The Commission recommended a uniform increase of Rs 10 per tonne for all the units in production. These recommendations were accepted by the Government with effect from the 15th September, 1973.

In April 1974, the Commission submitted their final report. The report has since been examined by the Government. A copy each of the Tariff Commission's Report 1974 together with a copy of the Government's Resolution containing the decision of the Government on the recommendations of the Commission, are placed on the Table of the House as required under Section 16(2) of the Tariff Commission Act 1951. (Placed in Library See No. LT-8097/74).

Under the provisions of the Tariff Commission Act, the report of the Tariff Commission, along with the decisions of Government thereon, is required to be placed on the Table of the House within a period of three months from the date of receipt of the report or within seven days from the commencement of the Session, which in this case means before 28th July 1974. The delay of a few days has been due to the time taken for the necessary detailed examination and consultations on some of the major issues underlying the recommendations of the Tariff Commission.

The Hindi version of the Report is not yet ready. It will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): My objection is this. I do not know what explanation Shri C. Subramaniam has given. But it is surprising that the Minister makes a statement correcting the answer given on 14th March, 1973 after about one year and five months, in the month of August, 1974. By now, copies of the proceeding would have been printed and sold away. I do not know who was the Minister at that time. But I would like to submit that some precaution should be taken to issue the correction early; when something is pointed out to the Minister, he should come out with the correction within one month or two months or at least six months and not after one year and five