

credit curb. And when the credit curb comes down, it is the peasantry which will suffer very much, and also the small scale sector suffers as far as the credit side to it is concerned. Therefore, I had asked a question sometime back that despite the increase in the Case-Reserve Ratio and also impounding of incremental deposits, will you give instruction to the Reserve Bank and through the Reserve Bank to various banks that the credit facilities despite this step should not suffer as far as the small-scale sector is concerned. And you had assured that this will be done. Probably the experience is otherwise. As a cumulative result of this step, though is good on inflation, their credit is coming down, So, will you assure that this? Will not affect the credit for the small-scale sector and the peasantry?

**SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE :**  
The objective of the credit Policy is not to discourage the productive requirements. That is why we have effected the credit-reserve ratio gradually and not by one stroke of pen by seven to nine per cent. Over the period of months we have done it at the rate of half a percent keeping an eye that the genuine credit requirements for production are not disturbed. As I assured the Hon. Members on earlier occasions also the instructions are already there that the genuine credit requirements not only of the small scale sector, but of all other/priority sectors will be provided from the banking system. It was not obviously to contain the rate of inflation only. Of course it was one of the major objectives. At the same time, if you make a comparison of the expansion of bank deposits in the corresponding period, you will find that the expansion has taken place for the first time. Naturally if the banks are left with—I would not say undesirable—excess liquidity, it may pose a problem to us. That is why we have to control it; But that does not

mean that credit requirements for genuine productive purpose should be disturbed.

खनिज एवं धातु व्यापार निगम द्वारा  
आयातित धातुओं के मूल्य बढ़ाया  
जाना

+

\*598. श्री सत्येन्द्र नारायण सिंह :

श्री मोती भाई आर० चौधरी :

क्या वाणिज्य मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि खनिज एवं धातु व्यापार निगम ने हाल ही में आयातित धातुओं के मूल्यों में वृद्धि की घोषणा की है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो किन-किन धातुओं के मूल्य बढ़ाए गए हैं तथा प्रत्येक मामले में किस सीमा तक वृद्धि की गयी है ; और

(ग) इस मूल्य वृद्धि के क्या कारण हैं ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE  
AND OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
SUPPLY (SHRI VISHWANATH  
PRATAP SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The increase has been due to general price trends in the world market and the increases in custom duty and other statutory levies.

## Statement

*Ex-Godown Selling Prices of Various Metals released by MMTC.*

(Rs. Per MT)

	January, 84	February, 84	March, 84	April, 84
(1) Electrolytic Copper Wire Bars.	38000	38000	39000	39000
(2) Continuous Cast Copper Wire Rods.	39850	39850	42300	42500
(3) High Grade Zinc	22300	25000	26600	26600
(4) Special High Grade Zinc	22400	25100	26700	26700
(5) Lead 99.97%	9200	9200	9900	10300
(6) Lead 99.99%	9400	9400	10100	10500
(7) Tin	260000	260000	269000	269000
(8) Nickel Squares/ Cathodes	95000	96000	101000	103000
(9) Nickel Briquettes	94000	95000	100000	100000
(10) Antimony Metal	39500	54500	56000	56000
(11) Mercury (Price : per Flask)	7350	7350	7500	7500

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAIN SINHA : May I know from the Minister if the increase in prices is in direct proportion to the increase in the world market or is it higher percentagewise ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : Sir, the figures are from the pre-Budget months i.e. they are from November to February. If you see the LME (London Metal Exchange) prices in pounds per metric tonne, you will find in the Electrolytic copper wire, there was a rise during

this period, but the MMTC price has shown a fall.

I can quote the prices for the Hon. Member if he wants, but it will take a little time. But I am indicating the general trend.

In respect of zinc, the London Metal Exchange prices showed an increase of 18.96 per cent while the MMTC prices of November, 1983 compared to February, 1984 showed an increase of only 16.28 per cent which is lower than the LME prices.

Regarding *lead*, while the LME prices of November went up compared to February, there has been a fall in the MMTC prices compared to that month.

In respect of *nickel*, the LME prices went up by 3.8 per cent and comparing to the same months of November and February the increase in MMTC prices has been only 2 per cent.

**SHRI SATYENDRA NARAIN SINHA :** May I know from the Hon. Minister whether he has received any representation from the Metals Trade Exchange against the price rise? And if so, what has been the reaction of the Government?

**SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH :** Sir, there have been reports in the papers about price rise, but after March there has been auxiliary duty increase of 5 per cent on all imported metals and countervailing duty on copper wire rods has been increased by Rs. 1,300 per metric tonne plus 10 per cent surcharge. So, this had to be absorbed into the prices and that is one of the reasons for this price rise. And to the complaints that have been received, this is the response.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :** Have you received any complaints or not?

**SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH :** I did say that there have been reports in the press.

**श्री मोती भाई आर० चौधरी :** माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि गोडाउन से निकलते समय का बिक्री मूल्य बताया गया है। क्या इसमें सेल-टैक्स और आक्ट्राय ड्यूटी शामिल नहीं है। दूसरा मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि अस्ता फरवरी में 22400 था फिर 25600 था जो मार्च में 26700 हो गया।

इसी प्रकार निकल जनवरी में 95000 था जो फरवरी में 97 हजार हो गया। इसी प्रकार सुरमे को आप देखिए, सुरमा धातु जोकि फरवरी में 39500 थी वह मार्च में एक दम से 54500 हो गई। फिर आगे और बढ़ा दिया गया है। इसी प्रकार सीसे के दाम भी तीन बार बढ़ाए गए हैं। इसलिए मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि हर माह आपने कीमत बढ़ाई है, इसका क्या कारण है?

**SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH :** Sir, about zinc prices, as I have already mentioned, in respect of London Metal Exchange prices there was a rise in price from November to February by 15.9 per cent, but the MMTC only raised it by 14 per cent. It did raise it, but to 14 per cent only.

Similarly, in respect of nickel, the world prices went up by 3.8 per cent. MMTC did raise its price but raised it to only 2 per cent.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :** This is not the question.

**SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH :** Yes, the question is why the price rise was effected.

**श्री मोती भाई आर० चौधरी :** सुरमा धातु के बारे में आपका क्या कहना है। यह तो 39500 से एक दम 54000 हो गई।

**SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH :** This is the price. And after March also the price has been raised on lead.

**श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी :** विदेशों में भी हर महीने बढ़ाया गया है या उन्होंने तो एक ही दफा बढ़ा दिया और आप टुकड़ों में बढ़ा रहे हैं।

**SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH :** There has been rise in international prices. From November, I will quote. About zinc—I am giving some facts. Please listen. (*Interruptions*). I will give details. In November the London Metal Exchange price of zinc was 582 Pounds per metric tonne.

In February it went upto Pound 692 per metric tonne, rise of 18.96% M.M.T.C. raised the price from Rs. 21,500 per metric tonne, a to Rs. 25,000 per metric tonne, a rise of only 16.28 compared to an international price rise of 18.96%.

Similarly in nickle, there was international price rise of 3.8%. I can quote the figures but it will take time. But M.M.T.C. raised it only by 2%.

Now the question comes of anti-mony. Why was it raised after March and in April also? There has been a slight rise, I observe. I do not have London Metal Exchange price with me. I have asked the M.M.T.C. to give me the information of this price, rise in April. I shall then pass that on to the Hon. Member.

**श्री मोती भाई आर० चौधरी :** सुरमा धातु को 39500 से 54500 तक बढ़ा दिया। इतना ज्यादा क्यों बढ़ाया? आप कैसे काम कर रहे हैं?....(व्यवधान)

**SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH :** I am unable to understand the term 'surma-dhani'.

**श्री मोती भाई आर० चौधरी :** आपने जो उत्तर दिया है, उसके क्रमांक-10 पर देख सकते हैं। दूसरी बात यह है कि हिन्दी का जवाब हिन्दी में क्यों नहीं देते।.... (व्यवधान)....

**श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी :** मन्त्री महोदय सुरमा भी जानते हैं और धातु भी जानते हैं।.... (व्यवधान)

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** सुरमा तो सिर्फ आंखें चमकाने के लिए है।

**श्री रामविलास पासवान :** मन्त्री महोदय, हिन्दी की बजाय अंग्रेजी में जवाब दे रहे हैं।

**श्री मोतीभाई आर० चौधरी :** जनवरी में कितना था? यह जरा देखिए।

**श्री विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह :** इसकी डिटेल्स हमारे पास नहीं है। इन्टरनेशनल प्राइस और वेयर हाऊसिंग के इन्टरेस्ट को छोड़कर के इसकी प्राइस लगाई जाती है। इस समय इन्टरनेशनल प्राइस हमारे पास सुरमा धातु का नहीं है। इसको मैं भिजवा सकता हूँ।

**श्री मोतीभाई आर० चौधरी :** आपके कहने का मतलब है कि आपके पास नहीं है।....(व्यवधान)

**श्री विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह :** जितना है उतना बतला रहा हूँ और जो नहीं है, वह भी बताऊंगा। January-February international prices, I do not have with me. I will pass that on to the Hon. Member.

**श्री धर्मदास शास्त्री :** मन्त्री महोदय की जब मुस्कराहट और चेहरा देखता हूँ तो ऐसा लगता है कि यह अच्छे बनिए होंगे। वाणिज्य मन्त्री एक अच्छा बनिया होना चाहिए। क्या मन्त्री महोदय बतायेंगे कि एस०टी०सी० और एम०एम०टी०सी० किस बुनियाद के लिए बने हैं? यह इस-लिए बने हैं कि देश में ज्यादा से ज्यादा एक्सपोर्ट और सस्ते से सस्ता इम्पोर्ट करे। जब यह एजेंसी टेण्डर निकाल कर खुद

मिडल-मैन से खरीदती है तो इसका मतलब यह है कि एक तो मिडल-मैन को पैसे देती है और खुद अपना भी कमीशन काटती है। यह कौन-सा देश का बनिया हुआ, जो इस तरह का व्यापार करता हो। बेसिक प्रिंसिपल पर मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि यह एजेंसी क्यों बनाई गई, नाम तो इसका बहुत सुन्दर है।

लेकिन जब काम देखा जाए, तो यह कह देते हैं कि इन्टरनेशनल मार्केटिंग ट्रेन्ड इज चेंजिंग, ऊपर जा रहा है। जब एक्सपोर्ट घट जाए तो कह देते हैं कि इन्टरनेशनल मार्केट का ट्रेन्ड नीचे आ रहा है। यह समझ में नहीं आता कि नीचे और ऊपर क्या है और कौन-सा बनिया यह करता है। यदि कंट्री का बनिया वाणिज्य मन्त्री देश में सस्ता इम्पोर्ट ला नहीं सकता तो मैं नहीं समझता कि वाणिज्य का अर्थ क्या हुआ ?

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** आप बताइए कि नाम बड़े और दर्शन छोटे क्यों हुए ?

**श्री विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह :** यह क्यों बनाये गये हैं, माननीय सदस्य शायद मुझ से ज्यादा बेहतर जानते हैं।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** बीच की बात कर रहें कि बीच में क्या है ?

**SHRI R. R. BHOLE :** Sir, the middlemen should be eliminated.

**श्री धर्मदास शास्त्री :** आप मिडिल मैन के जरिये इम्पोर्ट और एक्सपोर्ट क्यों कर रहे हैं ? कंट्री के लोगों को डबल कमीशन क्यों देना पड़े।

**श्री विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह :** मिडिल मैन

की बात नहीं है। एक टैंडर सिस्टम से जब करते हैं तो इसको सबसे कम दाम पर उपलब्ध कराने की कोशिश होती है। जहाँ तक कमीशन का सवाल है, जो सर्विस चार्ज एम०एम०टी०सी० रखता है वह डेढ़ और 2 परसेंट से अधिक नहीं है और अगर ओवरआल मार्जिन बेअर हाउसिंग का जोड़ लें तो 5 परसेंट से कम होता है, उसमें मुनाफाखोरी नहीं है।

**श्री धर्मदास शास्त्री :** उसकी परफारमेंस कैसे चेक करते हैं कि वह ठीक करते हैं या नहीं ? उसको नापने का बैरोमीटर क्या है ? वो ठीक करते हैं या नहीं उसकी जिम्मेदारी किस पर है।

**MR. SPEAKER :** I have not allowed anybody. Please, listen Mr. Shsatri.

**SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA :** Sir, the Hon. Minister is pleased to state that because of the rise in prices in the London Stock Exchange market or the prices of various goods were raising in the international market during the period November-January, the MMTC and the STC and other organisations had no option but to raise their prices. May I know from the Minister whether the MMTC had any contract signed before November, 1983 and against which :

(a) whether those goods received later on were also charged at higher prices prevailing after the first of November or whichever the relevant date of November ; and

(b) whether goods in stock here and in godowns here with the MMTC were also charged at higher prices in the name of this international rise in prices ?

**SHRI VISHWANATH PRATA SINGH :** The system of pricing is like

this. To arrive at an average price which the Hon. Member has referred to, the price of metal in the pipeline *plus* what has been contracted *plus* what is expected in the coming two months are also taken into consideration and then, an average price is arrived at.

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA : Therefore, you have only claimed that those prices were higher. Are lesser prices prevailing earlier not relevant ?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : That was the specific question of the Hon. Member whether the international went up. Therefore, I answered, "Yes".

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Mr. Speaker, Sir I want to know from the Hon. Minister whether at the time of importing goods like antimony, graphite and other metals which the Hon. Minister has elaborated in his main answer, any global tender has been floated. Now, he has laid some information on the Table of the House and also informed the Hon. Member as to what is the actual price in the international market.

Now, before considering the contract before finalizing the contract or the contract to be signed, is there any clause of negotiation in the contract ? If there is any clause of negotiation, what are the negotiations ?

Is the MMTC examining the Loudon Metal Bulletin or the international metal bulletin ? Who are the experts in the MMTC or the international marketing experts doing this exercise ?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : So far as the purchase prices are concerned, it is done on the commercial judgment of the MMTC. For the issue prices, there is a pricing committee under the Chairmanship of the Chief Controller in which various Departments of Industry and Economic Affairs are represented.

For the information of the Hon. Member, I have got the issue price of antimony.

नवम्बर में उसकी इन्टरनेशनल प्राइस 2050 यू० एस० डालर पर मीट्रिक टन्ज थी, दिसम्बर में भी वही रही, जनवरी में वह 2037 डालर थी और फरवरी में वह 2790 डालर हो गई। एक कारण आपके सामने है।

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Sir, I want your protection. I asked whether a clause relating to negotiation is there.

MR. SPEAKER : It is there.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL : I would like to know from the Hon. Minister what is the policy of the Government. Whenever the prices in the international market go down, they do not bring down the prices here. You look into the P.A.C. Report of last year. The prices of edible oils went down in the international market. The S.T.C. mopped up profits to the tune of Rs. 80 crores in one year and robbed the poor consumers in the country. They did not bring down the prices here. We are accusing the Finance Minister with regard to inflation. I think, it is the Commerce Ministry which is importing inflation into this country. Why don't you decrease the duties and maintain the price level in the country ? When the prices go down in the international market, then you mop up the profits through the S.T.C. by having more profits. Why not in this case also, when the prices in the international market go up, in order to maintain the price level in the country and not create problems for the Finance Minister, you take proper measures to cut down the duties to that extent ? Why don't you do that also so as to maintain the price level in the country ? Otherwise, it has such an adverse effect on the price level on all fronts in the country. What is the

policy of the Government in this regard ?

**SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH :** I think, the Hon. Members' question requires a re-allocation of work between the Departments. He is empowering me with powers in regard to customs duty and all that. I do not know whether the Finance Minister will agree with that. I am ready to take over this duty which he is assigning to me.

Anyway, I have indicated that whenever price fluctuations take place, all that is taken care of. In fact, the pricing is done by the Pricing Committee in regard to what the prices have been contracted for, that is, in the pipeline and also for expected future prices. Sometimes, there is an indigenous angle also, like, for example, the Hindustan Copper Limited prices may be lower. We have to protect the indigenous angle also. There is a formula according to which all that is taken care of.

#### Purchase of New Aircraft for use of Indian Airlines

\*605. **SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN :** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 124 on 24 February, 1984 regarding selection of Aircraft for Indian Airlines and state :

(a) whether the proposal to purchase new aircraft for the use of Indian Airlines to meet the increasing traffic has been finalised ;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal ;

(c) the number of new aircraft likely to be purchased ; and

(d) foreign exchange likely to be incurred as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF

THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHUR-SHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

**श्री राम विलास पासवान :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं डीटेल में नहीं जाना चाहूंगा, लेकिन यह प्रश्न 24 फरवरी के अतारंकित प्रश्न संख्या 124 के उत्तर के आधार पर पूछा गया है और प्रश्न संख्या 124 इण्डियन एक्सप्रेस में जो कुछ प्रकाशित हुआ था, उसके आधार पर पूछा गया था। मैं आप का ध्यान खींचना चाहूंगा मंत्री महोदय के दूसरे उत्तर की ओर, इस में जहां एक ओर कहा है कि मेरे पास इस तरह का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है, लेकिन आप मंत्री महोदय द्वारा दिए गए दूसरे प्रश्न के उत्तर को देखें और तमाम समाचार पत्रों में जो समाचार निकला है उस को देखें तो उस में दूसरी बात कही गई है। 28 फरवरी, 1984 को प्रश्न संख्या 289 के उत्तर में मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है—

“बढ़ते हुए यातायात की आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने के लिए इंडियन एयरलाइन्स की 1985-86 के दौरान अपने विमान बेड़े में वृद्धि करने का प्रस्ताव है। वे विभिन्न आकार तथा परास वाले कई प्रकार के विमानों का मूल्यांकन कर रहे हैं।....”

फिर इस के पहले 6 दिसम्बर, 1983 को भी जब राज्य सभा में इन से पूछा गया कि क्या यह सच है कि इंडियन एयरलाइन्स अपने बेड़े को आधुनिक बनाने तथा पुराने विमानों को बदलने के प्रयास से नये-नये प्रकार की एयरबस और बोइंग प्राप्त करने पर विचार कर रही है ;....