

Forward trading in oil seeds

*591. SHRI DHIRESWAR KALITA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to stop speculation in the oilseed trade ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE (SHRI M. R. KRISHNA) : (a) Government have already taken steps under the Forward Contract (Regulation) Act, 1952, to curb harmful speculation in oilseeds and oils. Bank advances in regard to these commodities have also been restricted. No additional proposal in this direction is at present before Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Consultation with Railway Employees' Federations on participation by Workers in Management of Railways

*592. SHRI MANIBHAI J. PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had held consultations recently with the representatives of the All India Railwaymen's Federation and the Federation of Indian Railwaymen on the need for active participation by workers in the management of Railways ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NANDA) : (a) Yes ;

(b) Railway Labour are already participating in certain spheres of railway activities. Details of the areas where such participation can be extended have still to be formulated, in consultation with the Organised Labour.

Increase in Prices of Rubber Tyres

*593. SHRI S. S. KOTHARI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that rubber tyre prices have increased during the past five years ; and

(b) whether Government propose to enquire into the cost structure of the rubber tyre industry and ensure that equitable prices are charged ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. The extent of increase in prices since April, 1965 is indicated below :—

<i>Date</i>	<i>Price increase (replacement sales)</i>
1-4-65	6%
1-10-65	5%
4-2-66	5%
1-4-66	7.5%
20-11-68	6.51%

(b) The Tariff Commission went into the question of fair price structure in respect of rayon tyre cord and flow prices of natural rubber, two primary raw materials for rubber tyre industry, and has submitted its report which is under consideration of the Government. There is no proposal under consideration on at present to enquire into the cost structure of the rubber tyre industry as a whole.

Special cell created against criminals indulging in theft of railway coal

*594. SHRI MUHAMMAD SHERIFF : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state.

(a) whether any raids were conducted by the special cell created recently against the criminals responsible for the theft of Railway coal ;