

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO): (a) and (b) Indian tyre industry manufacture with about five hundred tread patterns. The prices of tyres differ from company to company. Different tyre companies have revised the prices of various types of tyres manufactured by them at different times during the last three years. According to the manufacturers, they have been forced to raise the prices of tyres mainly due to increase in raw materials and conversion costs.

(c) Tyres are not subject to any price or distribution control. A close watch is however, maintained by the Government over prices of tyres as well as their raw materials.

**M/s. Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Ltd.**

@673-X. SHRI T. THANGA-BALU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chairman of the M/s. Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Ltd. at Ooty is also its Managing Director; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Increase in tyre prices

@673-Y. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices have found any

@Previously Unstarred Question 538 transferred from the 26th July, 1984.

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validity in the claim of AIMTC that the repeated price increases effected by the tyre companies were unjustified; and

(b) if so, what active steps Government propose to take to counter this unwarranted rise in prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO): (a) and (b) Tyres are not subject to any price or distribution control. Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices is sieged of the claims of All India Motor Transport Congress (AIMTC) and the tyre industry about the justification or otherwise of increase in tyre prices.

**M/s. Bengal Potteries Ltd.**

@673-Z. SHRI KALYAN ROY: SHRI M. KADHARSHA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply to the Unstarred Question No. 506 in the Rajya Sabha on the 1st March, 1984 and state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken so far on the final disposition of M/s. Bengal Potteries Limited and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the period of take-over of management has been extended and if so, till when;

(c) what progress has been made to bifurcate it into two separate units—one under ITDC and the other for producing insulators; and

(d) whether Government propose to replace the top personnel of the Company in view of their direct involvement in massive fraud and conspiracy to cheat the Punjab National Bank and subsequent arrests in July, 1984 and misuse of the money of the Bengal Potteries Limited and, if not, the reasons therefor?

@@Previously Unstarred Question 544 transferred from the 26th July, 1984.