

Fall in the prices of non-ferrous metals in the international market

*189. SHRI KRISHNA NAND JOSHI •

SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH
PANDE, SHRI PRAKASH
MEHROTRA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a steep fall in the prices of most of the non-ferrous metals like copper, lead and zinc in the international market;

(b) if so, what is the present price of these metals in comparison to the prices prevailing in January, 1980; and

(c) whether the Mineral and Metal Trading Corporation is being directed by Government to import non-ferrous metals for building a buffer stock before the prices again begin to rise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir. The prices of many non-ferrous metals which had been rising steeply during the period from August/September, 1979 to January/February, 1980 have fallen considerably thereafter.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix CXV. Annexure No. 70].

(c) No, Sir.

Opening of Circle Rationing office in Pushap Vihar

*190. SHRI PRASENJIT BARMAN:
SHRI BHAGATJ RAM MAN-
HAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the Residents Welfare Association (Blocks 125—151), M. B. Road

(Pushap Vihar), New Delhi, regarding opening of a fair price shop, kerosene oil depot, coal depot and a new Circle Rationing Office in vacant Government quarters of the colony;

(b) if so, what action has been taken thereon; and

(c) by when fair price shops and Circle Rationing Office are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Delhi Administration has reported that necessary authorisation for opening a fair price shop in the Central Market of Saket Colony covering Pushap Vihar is being issued, and applications received for coal depot and kerosene oil depot are being processed. In the absence of a shopping complex, the Delhi Administration is also exploring possibilities with the Director of Estates for allotment of a few vacant quarters for opening an office, fair price shop, kerosene oil depot and coal depot etc. for the Residents in the Colony itself.

Collection of tax from passengers of the Indian Airlines

*191, SHRI ERA SEZHIYAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Airlines have been collecting a tax from every passenger with effect from the 27th June, 1980;

(b) what are the statutory provisions under which the Indian Airlines has been collecting this tax;

(c) what are the reasons for imposing this tax; and

(d) what amount has been collected so far or upto the latest available date-?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT AND TOURISM:

AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA); (a) No, Sir. (b) to (d). Do not arise.

Purchase of fuel by the Delhi Flyin? Club

*192. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: SHRI HARISHANKAR BHABHRA; SHRIMATI KANAK MU-KHERJEE:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report appearing in INDIA TODAY dated July 1, 1980, to the effect that though the fuel quota fixed for the Delhi Flying Club is 2,000 litres a month, Shri Arjun Das, receiver for the club purchased 35,000 litres of aviation fuel on May 9, 1980, on the eve of Government's decision to raise fuel price; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT AND TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) The report appearing in INDIA TODAY of July. 16—31, 1980 has come to the notice of Government.

(b) The quota of fuel of the Flying Club for their use is 2,000 litres per month computable on a quarterly basis. On the 9th May, 1980, no fuel was purchased by the Delhi Flying Club. There has been no increase in the price of aviation gasoline in May, 1980.

Hand processing units for processing and printing of cloth

*193. SHRIMATI PURABI MUKHOPADHYAY: SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:-

(a) what is the estimate of the total number of hand processing units

in the country for processing and printing of cloth State-wise and the employment generated thereby;

(b) whether there is any estimate made by Government as regards cloth processed per day or total in a year and what percentage of such cloth is printed; and

(c) whether the Aiyar Committee, which had been asked to go into the problems of hand processing units and the employment generated has completed its work; and if so, what are the recommendations of the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c). Since hand processing and printing are entirely in the decentralised sector and small scale sector and a proper survey of the same has not been attempted in the past, it is difficult to give exact figures. The report of the working group constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri Iyer (Rela. Director, Weavers' Service Centre, Bombay) is expected shortly. According to tentative estimates collected by the working Group, 670 hand processing units are reported to be in existence providing employment to about 67,000 persons and these units are mainly in the States of Rajasthan and Maharashtra. The estimate of hand printing units in the country is 45,000, providing employment to about 4 lakh persons. Hand processing units are estimated to process 1200 million metres of cloth annually. Similarly, the estimate of hand printed cloth is 1470 million metres Per annum.

Separate recruitment for Banks in N. E. Region

*194. SHRI ROBIN KAKATI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Governor of Assam has proposed for