

that they will supply up to 50 per cent of the imported quantity to other authorised formulators who might approach them.

Canalisation of certain insecticides and weedicides

•259. PROF. N. M. KAMBLE:
SHRI PRAKASH MEHRO-
TRA: SHRI T.
ANJIAH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to canalise the import of Phosalone, Phendal, Butachlor insecticides and weedicides like Carbaryl to stop profiteering by big business houses with a view to making available the said sophisticated insecticides and weedicides to the poor farmers at reasonable prices;

(b) whether Government are aware that after canalising import of Carbaryl through State Chemical and Pharmaceuticals Limited and distributing it equally to big business houses and small formulators, it is now available to the poor farmers throughout the country at a reasonable price; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor and what steps Government propose to take to stop profiteering by big business houses?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Import of Carbaryl is not canalised. However, with a view to ensuring its adequate availability, the State Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Corporation of India (C.P.C.) were requested last year to import Carbaryl

in bulk for distribution to the formulators both in the organised and small scale sectors. This year also the State Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Corporation of India (C.P.C.) have been asked to arrange for the import of Carbaryl in bulk for distribution among the formulators.

(c) Attempts made by the State Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Corporation last year to import Phosalone and Butachlor were not fruitful. While no offer was received for Phosalone, Butachlor offered was of Taiwan origin, which is not yet cleared under the Insecticides Act. Only one formulator is registered for Butachlor. No useful purpose was, therefore, expected to be served by canalising the import of these two items through the State Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Corporation. M/s. Volrho Limited, have been persuaded to supply Phosalone technical imported by them to the other authorised formulators who may need it.

As regards Phendal (Phenothoate), M/s. Bharat Pulverising Mills have already set up capacity for the manufacture of 600 tonnes per annum of this product. However, there have been interruptions in production since 1978 due first to an accident and later on, to mechanical problems. When their production stabilises, they will be required to supply 50 per cent of their production of technical material to non-associated formulators. In the mean time, import of this item is being allowed in favour of actual users, on a restricted basis, under the policy of automatic/supplementary licensing.

Threat to India's security

*260. SHRI BHATM RAJ:
SHRIMATI HAMIDA
HABIBULLAH: SHRI
SAWAISINGH
SISODIA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state the measures taken by Government to protect the country's security in view of the emerging U.S.A.-Pakistan-China axis?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): As has been explained on various occasions, Government take careful note of all international developments having a bearing on our national security. These and other relevant factors are taken into account in formulating our own defence plans and programmes.

**Report of the M.R.T.P. Commission
on Sugar factory**

t850. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH
PANDE: SHRI PRAKASH
MEHRO-TRA:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of representative bodies of sugar factories have been facing an inquiry by the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission following abrupt and unjustified increase in the price of sugar all over the country;

(b) whether the MRTPC have submitted any findings in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission has issued a Notice of enquiry on the 4th April, 1979 to (i) M/s. Indian Sugar Mills Association; (ii) M/s. National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories Limited and (iii) the Steering Committee for Sugar Releases through its six members, on the basis of an application filed before it by the Registrar of Restrictive Trade Agreements under Section 10(a) (iii) of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969.

In its application under Section 10(a) (iii) of the M.R.T.P. Act to the M.R.T.P. Commission, the Registrar

tPreviously Unstarred Question No. 307, transferred from the 2nd May, 1979.

of Restrictive Trade Agreements has

alleged that the sugar factories which are members of the Indian Sugar Mills Association and the National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories Limited have entered into an agreement which provides inter alia for monthly release of quotas for sale and distribution of sugar in the market by the member factories as fixed by a Steering Committee appointed under the said agreement to implement the provisions of the said agreement, which came into force from the 1st March, 1979. The Steering Committee for Sugar Releases, comprising three representatives each of the two associations referred to above, has been empowered to make monthly allocations of sugar for sale by each mill. It has further been alleged by the Registrar of Restrictive Trade Agreements that as a result of this agreement, the member sugar mills do not have any option to sell and distribute sugar on their own except on payment of heavy pecuniary penalty. It has also been alleged that the Steering Committee released 4.25 lakh tonnes of sugar for the month of March, 1979 and 4.75 lakh tonnes for the month of April, 1979 (subsequently increased by 40,000 tonnes on 31-3-1979 and 50,000 tonnes on 4-4-1979) as against the off-take of 6.29 lakh tonnes of sugar in the month of February, 1979. As a result of the restricted quantity of sugar released to the market, it has been alleged that the prices of sugar went up abruptly during the month of March, 1979. The enquiry before the MRTP Commission is at the initial stage of proceedings.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

**Complaint against M/s. McNeir and
Gregor**

851. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:
SHRI GIAN CHAND TOTU:
SHRI KALP NATH RAI:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state;

tPreviously Unstarred Question No. 636, transferred from the 8th May, 1979.