

mentioned that the then Chief of Army Staff and the Corps Commander voluntarily retired, immediately after November, 1962.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

*588. { SHRI NIREN GHOSH:
SHRI M. BASAVAPUNNAIAH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) when Government propose to introduce the consumer price index numbers for the middle class in India; and

(b) if so, which are the centres proposed to be covered in the beginning?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI LAL BHADUR): (a) The index numbers are under construction. The question of publication of the indices will be considered in due course.

(b) Priority is being given in construction to 16 State Capitals viz., Delhi, Srinagar, Chandigarh, Lucknow, Patna, Shillong, Calcutta, Cuttack-Bhubaneswar, Bhopal, Jaipur, Ahmedabad, Bombay, Hyderabad, Madras, Bangalore and Trivandrum.

ISSUE OF CHINA'S NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS IN U.N.

*589. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India, propose to seek the United Nations' disapproval, of China's nuclear explosion, in the current session of the General Assembly; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of the other members of the United Nations in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI N. MENON):

(a) and (b) The Government of India have condemned the Chinese nuclear explosion and have made concerted efforts to mobilize world public opinion against Chinese nuclear weapons tests. The specific line of action to be adopted during the current session of the UN General Assembly will depend upon the views of various Governments on this question which are being ascertained at present.

CONTRACT SERVICE PERSONNEL IN BORDER AREAS

*596. SHRI U. S. DUGAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state whether Government propose to absorb the personnel serving in Border Roads Area on contract service for the last three or four years in the regular M.E.S. Cadre.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN): No proposal to absorb Border Roads personnel in the M.E.S. is under consideration.

EMPLOYMENT IN COAL MINES

*597. SHRI SURJIT SINGH ATWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that the figures of employment in the coal-mines have shown declining trends over the past few months; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to arrest the decline?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA): (a) There was some reduction in employment during the months of June and July but the figures in August and September have again gone up.

(b) The position is being watched.