

PRICE OF COPPER IMPORTED UNDER AID LOAN

*793. SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is paying about £ 500 per tonne for copper imported under the U.S. AID loan scheme as against the American producers' price of £ 272 per tonne;

(to) whether it is also a fact that before the import arrangements under the AID loans, Indian importers were paying only the American producers' price; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to bring down the import price of the metal?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) The price paid by Indian importers for copper imported under the ILS. AID loan scheme is based on the prices prevailing at the London Metal Exchange or U.S. Commodity Exchanges. Producers' prices are applicable only to sales effected by them direct to their established and long standing customers.

(b) No, Sir; India has always been importing copper from U.S.A under AID loan at the prices of the London Metal Exchange and Commodity Exchanges in U.S.A. Since January/ February, 1964 prices started going up and are now fluctuating between £500 and £521 per tonne as against £270 to £280 per tonne.

(c) Government is considering alternative possibilities of obtaining copper at more favourable prices. However, the prevailing shortage of copper in the world makes it more difficult to obtain copper at concessional prices.

SALE OF DALMIA CEMENT FACTORIES IN PAKISTAN

*794. SHRI P. ABRAHAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND SUPPLY be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 758 in the

Rajya Sabha on October 1, 1964 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s Dalmia Cement Ltd., gave possession of their factories in Pakistan to the Pakistani buyer, on the 27th September, 1964; and

(b) whether the sale agreement has since been executed and if so, what are the conditions of the sale?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY ENGINEERING AND INDUSTRY IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND SUPPLY (SHRI T. N. SINGH): (a) M/s. Dalmia Cement Ltd. gave possession of their two cement factories, one at Shantinagar (Karachi) producing cement and the other at Dan-dot (District Jhelum) producing cement and refractories, in Pakistan to the Pakistani buyer on the 30th September, 1964.

(b) The sale price is to be paid by way of export of cement to India. In case of default, the National Bank of Pakistan, as the guarantee provides, shall pay to M/s. Dalmia Cement Ltd. in India in Sterling other than Sterling held by the Bank in India or in Indian rupees from their Nonresident account in India.

एक फर्जी व्यक्ति की डाफ्ट्समैन के पद पर नियुक्ति

*७६५. श्री प्यारे लाल कुरील 'तालिब':
क्या रेल मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि कुछ दिनों पूर्व शिमला के रिसर्च, डिजाइन एंड स्टैंडर्ड्स आर्गनाइजेशन के एक सेक्शन अफसर तथा एक असिस्टेंट पर सी० एंड डबल्यू० सेक्शन में एक फर्जी व्यक्ति को डाफ्ट्समैन के पद पर नियुक्त कराने के लिये अवैध वक़्शीश प्राप्त करने का आरोप लगाया गया था;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या इस मामले की कोई जांच की गई; और