

RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, the 11th December, 1963/
the 20th Agra-hayana, 1885 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*415. [The questioner (Shri B. N. Bhargava) was absent. For answer, vide col. 3005-06 infra.].

*416. [The questioner (Shri M. P. Bhargava) was absent. For answer, vide col. 3006-07 infra.].

INFORMATION REGARDING THE MEDICAL AND OTHER FACILITIES AVAILABLE TO C.H.S.S. BENEFICIARIES IN WILLINGDON, SAFDARJUNG AND IRWIN HOSPITALS

*417. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether any pamphlet has recently been published with regard to Willingdon and Safdarjung Hospitals showing the different medical and specialist services that are provided therein and the names and qualifications of the Medical Officers working there for the facility and convenience of the C.H.S.S. beneficiaries and others;

(b) whether Irwin Hospital publishes such a bulletin; and

(c) the reasons for which names and terms of the opticians manufacturing and supplying eye glasses and spectacles with their contract rates are not included in the printed Guide to C.H.S.S. that has been supplied this year to M.Ps., as was done in the last bulletin?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (DR. SUSHILA NAYAR): (a) No, Sir

(b) Yes, Sir.

854 RSD—1.

(c) The panel of opticians is revised and amended every year. The Guide is not an annual publication.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA: May I know whether this information was given in the previous Guide supplied last year?

DR. SUSHILA NAYAR: I have just submitted, Sir, that the Guide is not an annual number. That is why we do not give this information regarding the panel of opticians in the Guide, because the list of opticians is revised and amended every year.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA: Then how will the people in the C.H.S. come to know which is the panel?

DR. SUSHILA NAYAR: Yes, Sir. list is available and the hon. Member can have it.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA: May I know whether the Government does not think it desirable to publish a detailed pamphlet giving all the medical facilities referred to in part (a) of the question?

DR. SUSHILA NAYAR: Yes, Sir. In fact, I have before me a manuscript which has to be revised and it will go to publication as soon as it is ready.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA: May I know by what time it is expected to be available?

DR. SUSHILA NAYAR: I hope, Sir, it will not be too long.

EXPORT OF IRON ORE TO JAPAN

*418. SHRI A. D. MANI: Will the Minister of INTERNATIONAL TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the eastern zone mine-owners have decided to supply iron ore for export to Japan in accordance with Government's policy; and

(b) whether any settlement has been reached regarding the rate per ton of ore to be exported?

THE MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Has there been a dispute regarding the fixation of the rates for iron ore exported from the eastern zone? Has there been a discrimination between the prices accepted by the S.T.C. for iron ore in the southern region which differs from the price fixed for the eastern region?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Sir, prices vary even from mine to mine, not only from region to region.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Is it a fact that on account of the dispute, the iron ore supply to Japan has been delayed and the Japanese industries have been forced to import 700,000 tons of ore from South America?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: No, Sir.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Sir, I should like to ask this question. Is it a fact that the S.T.C. in the course of its negotiations with the eastern mine-owners claimed that if it accepted their rate of Rs. 13 per ton, it would be losing 3 shillings per ton in the export of iron ore to Japan?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: This again is an indirect way. As a matter of fact, the prices of iron ore depend upon the lead, firstly from the pit-head to the rail-head, and then from the rail-head to the sea-port. So over the price question there was a difference of opinion with some mine-owners of the eastern zone, but as I have said in the answer, that has been fully resolved.

*419. [Withdrawn.]

TEXTILE PRICE STAMPING SCHEME

*420. SHRI M. C. SHAH: Will the Minister of INTERNATIONAL TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the profit margin allowed to the textile mill-owners in stamping the price;

(b) what is the margin of profit for traders;

(c) whether it is a fact that mill-owners could stamp any price they wanted; and

(d) whether any representations have been received by Government to abolish the price stamping system?

THE MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) No specific profit margin has been fixed in the scheme for price stamping. Mills are allowed to add certain percentage over the basic prices ruling in August, 1959.

(b) An addition of 18 per cent over the ex-mill price has been permitted to the trade.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Representations have been received by Government from time to time from various quarters about a few aspects of the Voluntary Price Control Scheme including abolition of stamping of prices on cloth which forms an integral part of the scheme. Government consider that in order to hold the price line particularly for most of the basic varieties, price stamping is necessary. A Committee has been appointed for reviewing the price stamping scheme. A copy of the Government order constituting this Committee is laid on the Table of the House. [See below.]

No. 3(6)-Tex (A)/63.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL
TRADE

New Delhi, the 13th November, 1963

22nd Kartika, 1885 (S)

MEMORANDUM

As a result of several discussions held between the textile industry and the Government, a scheme of volun-