

(b) the price, including freight and insurance paid therefor; and

(c) whether it is a fact that some of the States have refused to lift their steel quotas from the State Trading Corporation on the ground that the prices charged are much higher than the prevailing market prices?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) State Trading Corporation is arranging the import of 48,000 tons of different categories of steel to meet the requirements of Small Scale Industries. Out of this, a quantity of 30,635 tons of steel materials has already arrived in India.

(b) The C.I.F. price for different shipments is fixed by the Iron and Steel Controller periodically and the material is imported at these prices.

(c) Yes, Sir, in the case of H.B. Wire.

SHRI BABUBHAI CHINAI: May I know which are the States that have not lifted, the quantities thereof and the values thereof?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Practically all the States have lifted and only a small quantity remains to be lifted by four States, namely, Andhra, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Bihar. They have not lifted.

SHRI BABUBHAI CHINAI: And what are the quantities?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: In one case it is about 500 tons. The exact quantities are not known, but in all it is about 3,400 tons.

SHRI BABUBHAI CHINAI: Is it a fact that these States have not lifted, because the price of the State Trading Corporation is higher than the prevailing price?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: The House will recall that there is even now, and it was so in the past, an acute scarcity of this type of merchant steel in the country, and therefore, with the full consent of all the State Governments and the small scale industries, we imported steel from the rupee-payment area. At that time, the international price was much higher than the price at which we imported. In the meantime, within nine months or so, due to the overproduction of steel in many parts, prices went down. It is not due to the State Trading Corporation, but because of the international prices prevailing.

SHRI BABUBHAI CHINAI: What is the difference between the S.T.C. price and the price prevailing in the market?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: It is not the S.T.C. price, but the price at which those countries were prepared to sell. It was, as I said, lower than the internal price. The difference is about Rs. 100 to Rs. 200 per ton.

INDIA'S APPRECIATION OF BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S CONGO POLICY

•12. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the newspaper reports of September 27, 1961, to the effect that Government have "welcomed the reiteration of the British policy in the Congo in support of a United and Independent Congo" etc., are correct; and

(b) if so, on what basis Government extended this appreciation to the Congo policy of the British Government?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Our appreciation of the Congo policy of the British Government was based on the reiteration of this policy by the British Prime Minister in his message to our Prime Minister. Th«

British Prime Minister stated that the aims of British policy in Congo were: The Unity and Independence of the Congo and termination of the secession of Katanga.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I see from the reply of the hon. Deputy Minister that on the basis of one statement of a somewhat metaphysical character, the Government came to this conclusion. May I know, Sir, while paying this tribute to the British Government for having changed its policy with regard to the Congo, whether the Government took into account the other developments, both within the United Kingdom, especially in its press, and (outside the United Kingdom, as far as these aspects were concerned?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: Sir, if we start discussing here the change in policies of Governments with regard to the Congo, there is no great power which has not been shifting and changing its policies. This question here relates to a certain statement made by me and it was based on a personal message received from the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom that they stood for the unity of the Congo, that is to say, that they were against the cutting off of Katanga from the Congo Republic, and secondly, they stood for the removal of the foreign mercenaries there. These are the two basic facts in the Congo and because they said that, we welcomed that statement.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know if it is not exactly at the time when the Prime Minister is reported to have said this—the British Prime Minister not ours—the British Press, especially the Tory Press, was in full cry against powers like India and was causing provocation and everybody knows that it has been supported by the British Government?

MH. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We are not concerned with the British Press.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: No, Sir. But discussion also took place in the House of Commons. Therefore all these things should be taken into account. Here it is not a question of an individual statement; it is a question of policy with regard to Congo. Now, may I know whether, after getting this statement from the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and before paying this tribute to them, the Government of India enquired of the United Kingdom Government as to what they had to say with regard to the other matters which showed that they were pursuing a different policy?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: We keep ourselves informed and, as I mentioned a little while ago, I would draw the hon. Member's attention even to this morning's newspaper report—I have not got the full report yet—about the Resolution in the Security Council and how the great powers have dealt with it. It is no good taking up a black and white attitude that everything that one country does is agreeable and good while everything the other country does is disagreeable. There are many things—which are done by other countries which we partly accept and partly do not accept.

SHRI A. D. MANI: After this elucidation of the policy of the British Government, have the Government of India satisfied themselves that the local representatives of the United Kingdom Government in Leopoldville are carrying out the policy, because the former representatives were not friendly to Mr. Dayal?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: These are odd questions. We are partly satisfied with what other countries do and partly not satisfied but we do not go about condemning them in public because they have not fallen in line. Well, sometimes something happens which we do not like and something happens which we approve of.

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SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: We are not concerned with the question of condemnation now; we are concerned with the tribute paid. All that we ask the Prime Minister is whether, when this statement was made on behalf of the Government of India, the Government of India satisfied itself from other sources taking into account other relevant facts and having regard to the chain of events that were taking place at that time including propaganda against India.

(No reply)

*13. [The questioner (Shri P. Rama-murti) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 57—59 infra.]

नेपाल-तिब्बत सड़क के निर्माण के लिये नेपाल-चीन समझौता

*१४. श्री नवाबसिंह चौहान : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सब है कि काठमांडू को तिब्बत से मिलाने वाली एक सड़क के निर्माण के लिये चीन और नेपाल के बीच एक समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किये गये हैं और

(ख) यदि उपरोक्त भाग (क) का उत्तर हाँ होता क्या इस सम्बंध में नेपाल सरकार से कोई परामर्श किया गया है ?

NEPAL-CHINA AGREEMENT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF NEPAL-TIBET ROAD

*14. SHRI NAWAB SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an agreement has been signed between China and Nepal for the construction of a road linking Kathmandu with Tibet: and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether any consultations have been held with the Government of Nepal in this connection?

बैदेशिक-कार्य उपमंत्री (श्रीमती लक्ष्मी एन० मेनन) : (क) जी हाँ ।

(ख) जी नहीं । इस मामले में भारत सरकार से परामर्श नहीं किया गया ।

[THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The Government of India were not consulted in the matter.]

श्री नवाबसिंह चौहान : क्या भारत सरकार ने अपनी ओर से इस समझौते के बारे में कुछ सूचना इकट्ठी करने की कोशिश की और क्या भारत सरकार ने उस सूचना के आधार पर इस बात का निर्णय किया कि यह समझौता कहाँ तक उसकी सुरक्षा के ऊपर असर डालता है ? अगर किया तो उसका क्या नतीजा निकला ?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: This is an old proposal which was taken up at the time of the Koirala Ministry. The Government of India were not consulted at all and at the present time it seems premature to speculate upon the repercussions of this project.

श्री नवाबसिंह चौहान : मेरा प्रश्न यह था कि क्या सरकार की तरफ से इस बात को जानने की कोशिश की गयी कि यह समझौता जो किया गया है इसकी मन्शा क्या है, क्या इसके डिटेल—ब्योरे—हैं, और

[] English translation.