

†[THE MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) Films used to be imported by Pakistan from India under Protocol I to the Indo-Pakistan Trade Agreement against payment in non-convertible Indian Rupees. No loss of foreign exchange is therefore involved.

(b) A reply to the protest Note has been received but the Pakistan Government have not agreed to the removal of the ban.]

PRICE CONTROL UNDER THE INDUSTRIES (DEVELOPMENT AND REGULATION) ACT

25. SHRI K. V. RAGHUNATHA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the commodities subject to price-control at present under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act;

(b) what is the nature of control imposed in each case;

(c) what is the period during which these controls have been, or, are intended to be operative;

(d) what is the basis of prices that are fixed; and

(e) how the controls existing now compare with those in 1957, in respect of the factors stated above?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) Ethyl alcohol, molasses, cement and staple fibre.

(b) *Ethyl alcohol and molasses*.—Under the Ethyl Alcohol (Price Control) Order, 1961 and the Molasses Control Order, 1961, maximum prices have been fixed for different grades of ethyl alcohol and molasses conforming to certain I.S.I. Standards.

† [] English translation.

Cement.—The prices payable by the State Trading Corporation to the Cement producers and the price at which S.T.C. are to sell cement to consumers are controlled by means of the Cement Control Orders issued from time to time under the Act.

Staple Fibre.—Under the Staple Fibre Control Order, 1958 the price at which staple fibre can be sold by a producer has been fixed. Distribution of staple fibre is also regulated by a system of permits issued by the Textile Commissioner.

(c) *Ethyl alcohol and molasses*.—The controls are effective from 3rd May, 1961 and 29th March, 1961, respectively. No periods have been specified for their duration.

Cement.—The control has been in force since 1st July, 1956 and under the present Cement Control Order issued in October, 1961, it will remain in force till 31st March, 1966.

Staple fibre.—The control is effective from 9th September, 1958 and no period has been specified for its duration.

(d) *Ethyl alcohol and molasses*.—The ceiling prices were fixed after a detailed investigation into the cost of production at a number of units in various parts of the country.

Cement.—The price is based on the Tariff Commission's cost examination of the cement units.

Staple fibre.—The price is based on a study of the cost of production.

(e) *Ethyl alcohol, molasses and staple fibre*.—There was no price control for these commodities in 1957.

Cement.—There is no change in the nature of control.

PRICE CONTROL UNDER ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT

26. SHRI K. V. RAGHUNATHA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state: