

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: It was brought to our notice—only yesterday I was in Calcutta—that the price rules at Rs. 32 a maund.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: I am talking of some months ago; I am not talking of yesterday's position.

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: The price has ruled round Rs. 30.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: May I know if the Government gave an assurance that they would legislatively fix the minimum price of raw jute? And I want to know if Government is going to honour that assurance.

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: The assurance was not in terms of a statutory floor price but that the price in Calcutta market for Assam Bottoms will rule round Rs. 30. The present price is Rs. 32 and the last month's average was Rs. 30.50 and there was no occasion to review that policy.

**PAKISTAN COMMERCE SECRETARY'S
STATEMENT REGARDING INDO-PAKISTAN
TRADE**

*347. SHRI A. D. MANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a statement made by Pakistan's Commerce Secretary, Mr. Osman Ali, to the effect that the failure of the authorities in India to license imports from Pakistan was keeping the trade agreement quotas from being fulfilled; and

(b) if so, what is the actual position in this regard and what were the quotas which have not been fulfilled?

THE MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MANTIBHAI SHAH): (a) We have no information about the reported statement of Pakistan's Commerce Secretary except what has appeared in the Press.

(b) The extent of licensing done by us exceeds the ceilings provided under Protocols I and II of the agreement. The shortfall in imports in respect of certain commodities occurred mainly because of operation of supply and demand and quality and price.

SHRI A. D. MANI: The Minister referred to something that appeared in the Press. According to him what appeared in it?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Several items appear, sometimes not full text. We have verified some which were marginal or near the periphery but there was no occasion for them to complain or for us to complain with respect to that.

INVITATION TO WHITE GUESTS IN RECEPTION GIVEN BY SIR JOHN MAUD IN CAPE TOWN

*348. SHRI A. D. MANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a reception given in Cape Town by Sir John Maud, British Ambassador in South Africa, where only white guests were invited; and

(b) whether any protest has been made by Government to the Government of the United Kingdom in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Government have seen reports in certain South African newspapers, about such a reception.

(b) No, Sir.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Has the attention of the Government been drawn to a motion by Mr. Dingle Foot, M.P. in the House of Commons protesting against this discrimination against coloured people?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: Yes, Sir.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Have Government, on the basis of that motion in the House of Commons, made any re-

presentation from the Commonwealth point of view on this subject?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: Perhaps as the hon. Member is aware, it was a question and not a motion and the answer was given by the Minister of State explaining the policy of the United Kingdom Government in this respect.

SHRI A. D. MANI: May I correct the Minister, Sir? It was a motion and the motion read as follows:

"That this House believing that discrimination based upon race or colour cannot in any instance be justified regret that Her Majesty's representative in South Africa should have invited to his official reception to celebrate Her Majesty's birthday only persons with white skin."

It was a motion; it was not a question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He maintains that it was a motion and not a question.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: My impression is that it was an answer in reply to a question. Now, the hon. Member says that it was a motion. Whether it was a motion or a question, that does not change the basic fact.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: The point is why no protest has been made by the Government of India to the Government of the United Kingdom in this regard.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: In the reply the Minister said that it was not a question of colour bar and that it was the policy of the British Government only to invite Ministers and officials and they all happened to be of European origin; also some businessmen who were also of European origin were invited.

SHRI A. D. MANI: On a point of information it was not a reception for

officials or Ministers. 700 persons were invited and all of them had white skin.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are more people with white skin than 700.

SHRI SATYACHARAN: May I know even after our diplomatic rupture with the South African Government if we have any representative there, some Consul or somebody and, if so, whether he was given an invitation by the High Commissioner for Britain in South Africa to this reception.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: There is no staff working there and therefore the question does not arise.

MANIPULATION OF AFFAIRS OF COMPANIES UNDER LIQUIDATION BY SHAREHOLDERS

*349. SHRI A. D. MANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are contemplating measures which will arm it with powers to see that influential shareholders do not manipulate the affairs of a company under liquidation; and

(b) if so, what were the case* which came to Government's notice which called for such measures?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) No such measure is currently under active consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

भारत-चीन सीमा विवाद के बारे में
अधिकारियों की रिपोर्ट पर चीनियों
की टिप्पणियाँ

*३५०. श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : क्या
प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे
कि