

- (c) During October 1958—March 1959 licensing period 1,259 applications were received. Figures about the number of applications made by publishers is not readily available.
- (d) 295 licences for the value of Rs. 252 lakhs were issued during the last licensing period (upto 28th February 1959). Information regarding tonnage involved is not available as only the value is indicated in the licences and not quantity.
- (e) 335 applications (upto 28th February 1959) were rejected for one or more of the following reasons:
- (i) Applications were not submitted by the scheduled date (i.e. 31-1-59);
  - (ii) The applications were made for those books which could be printed on NEPA Newsprint; and
  - (iii) The applicants did not complete the formalities required according to the Policy Book for the licensing period in question.

Here again the number of publishers refused licences is not available.

SHRI KAILASH BIHARI LALL: May I know if the Government is aware that newsprint is sold in the market at a higher rate than what the actual price for it is?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: We have not received any complaint from any State Government or any responsible party so far. The fact is that there is a shortage of newsprint and most of the publishers have got to reduce their anticipated publications.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether it is a fact that the newsprint allotted to one of the big daily papers of Calcutta was found in a paper merchant's shop?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Well, I take the information. I will investigate it

if further details are given by the hon. Member.

#### SHRI KHANDUBHAI DKSai'S SUGGESTION TO CREATE AN AUDIT SERVICE

\*360. SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state whether Government have considered Shri Khandubhai Desai's suggestions for establishing an Audit Service composed of Government servants only and to debar private individuals and firms from practising and auditing accounts and balance sheets of public and private limited companies, trusts etc.?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI N. KANUNGO) : Government's attention has not specifically been drawn to the suggestion reported to have been made by Shri Khandubhai Desai but similar suggestions for nationalisation of the profession of Chartered Accountants made by several persons, including Prof. N. Kaldor, from time to time in the past were examined and considered by Government.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Do I take it that Government is actively considering the suggestion?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: No, Sir. After consideration in the past, they have decided not to undertake this step.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question hour is over.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### BARBER IN ASHOKA HOTEL,-NEW DELHI

\*333. SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a barber who served in the Ashoka Hotel, New Delhi from 1st to 15th of October, 1958 was paid Rs. 2,200-00 and about Rs. 50'00 per day was spent on his boarding and lodging?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI K. C. REDDY) : At the specific request of the **Indian**