

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: On the contrary the quality of this particular car has considerably improved.

SHRI H. D. RAJAH: Is the hon. Minister aware that Rs. 1,250 is the increase in the price of this car in the last few months?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: To be precise the increase was from Rs. 9,999 to Rs. 11,161 which works out to about Rs. 1,162; but the fact is that even this price according to the Tairff Commission Report is a little below the cost of production of this car.

SHRI S. C. KARAYALAR: May I know, Sir, whether the producers of this car have undertaken to produce the car according to a phased programme of manufacture; and if so, whether they have adhered to this programme?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: It is quite so; they are adhering to the programme. As a matter of fact, they went a little faster on the Indianisation of components and that was why last year the quality slightly deteriorated. We advised them to go somewhat slow on that and they are now completely adhering to the programme of manufacture.

SHRI R. P. N. SINHA: Is it a fact that 'FIAT 1100' has been selling in larger numbers than Hindustan Land-master? And what was the number of Hindustan Land-master sold last month and what was the number of 'FIAT

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: It is a fact that 'FIAT 1100' is selling slightly more than Hindustan Land-master, but the last month's figures are not yet available. If the hon. Member is interested, I will certainly supply them.

SHRI AHMED SAID KHAN: May I know whether this rise in price is due to the fact that Government have raised the price of steel and coal?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: That is also partly true.

SHRI GOPIKRISHNA VIJAI-VARGIYA: Has the Government any scheme for making small engines in India, so that we may have cheaper cars?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: 'Small engine' is rather a difficult term to define; but if the hon. Member means petrol engine, I can assure the House . . .

SHRI GOPIKRISHNA VIJAIVAR-GIYA: Diesel engines.

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: In this country we have sanctioned two diesel engine schemes, one with the Automobile Products of India and the other with Perkins in Madras and both of them are showing good results.

CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE SINDRI FERTILIZERS AND CHEMICALS PRIVATE LIMITED

*215. SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chairman, Sindri Fertilisers; is normally an official; and

(b) who is the present Chairman?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATISH CHANDRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Shri Shri Ram.

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Is it a fact that the present Chairman of the Sindri Fertilisers was once the Chairman of the Industrial Finance Corporation?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: I think he was a few years back.

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Is it a fact that a Parliamentary Committee enquired into the working of the Industrial Finance Corporation when he was Chairman?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: There was some Committee under the Chairmanship of Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani. I will not be able to give the details. This question should properly be addressed to the Minister of Finance.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, whether before making this appointment the Government once again refreshed its mind with the recommendations and the findings of this particular Committee of which Mrs. Kripalani was the Chairman?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: That Committee went into the matter and gave its findings a few years ago, but there were no aspersions on the Chairman as such.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, whether in that particular report certain statements have been made—well, if they are not aspersions, they were certainly not very much complimentary—if the Prime Minister wants to say something, I shall sit down—whether any statements were made which, if not aspersions, were by no means complimentary to the gentleman who has been appointed and whether that was taken into account?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: Everything was taken into account and we thought that Lala Shri Ram would make an excellent Chairman of the Sindri Fertilizers.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, if this excellence of the Chairman has been found out after the recommendations had been made or before it?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Mr. Shri Ram has been a Member of this Board since the inception of Sindri for the last five years and his continuation and his reappointment have been all done after careful consideration of the report, recommendations and the decision of the Government on the Sucheta Kripalani Committee Report.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, what other considerations were taken into account, apart from the report; as to who initiated the proposal—whether it came from the Board of Directors of the Sindri Fertilizers or was the name sponsored by somebody in New Delhi?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: As the honourable House is aware, all these appointments and nominations are made by the Government direct in their own discretion.

UTILISATION OF SERVICES OF SADHUS FOR CONSTRUCTIVE PURPOSES

♦216. SHRI P. C BHANJ DEO: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme under consideration for utilising the services of Sadhus for constructive purposes; and

(b) if so, what are the broad features of that Scheme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER of PLANNING (SHRI S. N. MISHRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI P. C BHANJ DEO: Is it a fact that Government have been registering the names of certain Sadhus?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: No, Sir. There is no registration in operation at the moment.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: We could not hear, Sir.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know, Sir, if it is a fact that the Government is helping the Bharat Sevak Samaj to train these 'sadhus' to popularise the Five Year Plan in the country?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: There is no question of Government helping the Bharat Sevak Samaj for this purpose; but the Bharat Sevak Samaj as an