

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: As I said, they cannot march in to those territories from the present Portuguese territories except by passing through the Indian soil.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: What steps have been taken by the Government of India to prevent their helicopters flying over our territories?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: They cannot fly over our territory without our permission.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: Suppose they do it; then?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

PROP G. RANGA: My question is this. Do the Government of India propose to give any assurance to the people who have liberated themselves that they would get every possible assistance to protect their liberty?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: I have made the Government's position very clear that we would not allow any foreign army to march through our territory.

DECONTROL OF PRICE OF COAL

*419. SHRI RATANLAL KISHORILAL MALVIYA: Will the Minister for PRODUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to decontrol the price of coal; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER FOR PRODUCTION (SHRI K. C. REDDY): (a) A suggestion to this effect was made at the last meeting of the Central Advisory Council of Industries held on 28th August 1954 and Government have undertaken to have this question examined.

(b), Does not arise at present.

SHRI RATANLAL KISHORILAL MALVIYA: Is it a fact that some time back the Coal Commissioner had made a recommendation for reducing the price of coal because it was being under sold by some of the colliery-owners in the open market?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: Whatever the reasons are, I do not fully accept the reasons indicated in the hon. Member's question. A proposal was made by the Coal Commissioner to reduce the price of a particular quality of Coal and Government accepted that recommendation and reduced the price.

SHRI RATANLAL KISHORILAL MALVIYA: This was long long ago. After that, the colliery-owners were under-selling coal and the Coal Commissioner recommended a further reduction in the price of coal.

SHRI K. C. REDDY: I do not know what the hon. Member is thinking about. There was a proposal some time back which the Government accepted. But there is no proposal currently at present—for any further reduction, and the Government is not considering any such proposal.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: May I know if the hon. Minister is aware of the fact that even at present coal is under-selling the control price?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: Yes, Sir. The hon. Member's question answers the question put by the previous hon. Member. In spite of the fixation of price of coal, there are certain grades of coal being under-sold for whatever reasons it may be—we need not go into them—but the Government are trying to see that such under-selling is not permitted. One of the ways they have followed is to reduce the price of certain categories of coal, where we find that there is persistent under-selling. And we thought the best way to regularise the matter was to reduce the price of such coal.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: But, is the hon. Minister aware that even some of the State Governments, and certain Government Departments, accept the coal at rate lower than the control rate?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: No. I am aware of certain State Governments which have been obliged to pay a higher price than perhaps the price at which they can obtain.

12 NOON

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

DEVELOPMENT OF AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY

*394. SHRI LALCHAND HIRA-CHAND DOSHI: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any recommendations have been made by the Government of India to the State Governments to encourage the development of automobile industry by reducing taxes on motor vehicles, and making purchases from indigenous manufacturers; and

(b) whether any proposal for the reduction of the duty on petrol is under consideration?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) The Tariff Commission in their report on the automobile industry had, inter alia, observed that the recommendations of the Motor Vehicles Taxation Enquiry Committee on the taxation of commercial vehicles by State Governments should be implemented as early as possible. Government have requested all State Governments to give this matter their earnest consideration. As for purchases of motor vehicles, all State Governments have been requested to meet

their entire requirements from the approved manufacturers.

(b) No, Sir.

CONSTRUCTION OF AN AERODROME AT VASCODEGAMA

♦397. SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the Portuguese authorities are constructing an aerodrome at Mormugoa (Vascodegama) in Portuguese settlement in India; and

(b) if so, whether Government have ascertained from the Portuguese authorities the purpose for which the aerodrome is being constructed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA): (a) Yes.

(b) The Government of India have made no such enquiry from the Portuguese authorities.

IMPORT OF PEARL BARLEY

*399. SHRI J. V. K. VALLABHA-RAO: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether licences for the import of Pearl Barley have been refused to quota holders in Madras during this year;

(b) if so, whether Government have received any representation from the Madras Kirana merchants association at this regard; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative what action has been taken by Government on those representations?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) No, Sir. Quota holders under Serial No. 12(b)/V of the Import Trade