

being felt all over the country and the Government has not been taking any steps?

Shri K. D. Malviya: The first part is correct. The latter part of the question is not correct.

Shri Thirumala Rao: Are Government aware that certain oil companies, which also control the supply of gas cylinders and cooking ranges, are trying to create an artificial scarcity of oil so as to enhance the sale of their cylinders and cooking ranges?

Shri K. D. Malviya: I am not aware of such an attempt on the part of the various companies, because gas cylinders are getting popular in very few areas.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या सरकार को मालूम है कि यू० पी० के अन्दर तेज का भाव ४ घाना से लेकर १२ घाना बोटल तक ही गया है जब कि उसका भाव ३ घाना से अधिक नहीं होना चाहिये ।

श्री के० दे० जालजीव : जी हा, दाम जरूर बहुत हो गये, और उत्तर प्रदेश में इतने ज्यादा हो गये यह बहुत अफसोस की बात है । इससे कम हो जाय तो अच्छा है ।

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Article on India by Russian Ambassador to China

*10. { Shri Rajendra Singh;
Shri Surendra Mahanty;

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the Russian Ambassador to China has written a critical article in an International magazine regarding the profession and practices of Indian Prime Minister; and

(b) if so, does it indicate any significant change in the foreign policy of Russia towards India?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) and (b). We have seen the article to which the Hon'ble Member has referred. We have no reason to think that this article marks any change in Soviet Government's attitude to India. In fact, the relation between our two countries continues to be cordial and both the Governments are resolved to improve it further.

Central Hospital, Asansol

*11. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme for expansion of the Central Hospital, Asansol under the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Organisation from 165 beds to 250 has been sanctioned;

(b) if so, what is the estimated cost of the same; and

(c) when the construction of the building will commence?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Yes.

(b) Rs. 5,17,156.

(c) The construction of staff quarters has already commenced. Plans and estimates for the wards are being finalised.

New Cement Factories in Bombay

*19. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bombay or any private concern from Bombay have applied to Government for licences to start new cement factories in Bombay State;

(b) if so, whether any licences have been granted; and

(c) the location of these factories?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir. Two concerns have applied.