

check on the different rates of electricity in different States ;

(b) the reasons for different rates in different States ; and

(c) whether a statement showing the rates of electricity charged in the various States will be laid on the Table of the House ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KURIEL) : (a) State Electricity Boards constituted by State Governments fix the tariffs in consultation with the State Governments.

(b) Because of variations in the cost of generation, transmission and distribution the tariff structure for different categories of consumers varies from State to State.

(c) A statement showing the average electricity rates charged for different consumers in the various States is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT—1913/72*].

Fixation of Sale Price by S.T.C.

4690. SHRI S. N. MISRA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of the additional cost and profits added by the State Trading Corporation to the landed cost of the various imported items, item-wise, for fixation of sale price ; and

(b) the basis for arriving at the said percentage ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). In fixing the prices of imported commodities, the basis adopted by the State Trading Corporation is different in respect of different categories of items. The pricing formulae of the State Trading Corporation are subject to review and approval by an inter-Ministerial Committee. In respect of commodities which are imported for export production, for example, the margin of the State Trading Corporation is kept low so as to ensure that the final products become

competitive in the foreign market. For certain items, the S.T.C. is authorised to mop up profits which would otherwise go to private trade in the light of supply/demand conditions. For this purpose a three tier policy is adopted in respect of the following categories of importers :—

(i) Registered Exporters.

(ii) Actual User units exporting 10% and more of their production.

(iii) Non exporting actual user units.

Importers in category (i) get the most favoured treatment and importers in category (ii) are given more favourable treatment generally than importers of the last category.

Confirmation of Judges appointed temporarily to High Courts of States

4691. SHRI S. N. MISRA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Judge appointed temporarily to a High Court of a State has been refused confirmation during the last three years ; and

(b) if so, the name of the High Court, the number of Judges and the year ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND PETROLIUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Judges dealt with under Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968

4692. SHRI S. N. MISRA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Judge of a High Court has been dealt with under the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968 during the last three years ; and

(b) if so, how many and from which Court ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI H R GOKHALE) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Open Wagons used for Movement of Salt (Western Railway)

4693 SHRI VEKARIA Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that open wagons had been used for the movement of salt by the Western Railway, and

(b) if so whether Government propose to supply to the Western Railway tarpaulins to ensure that salt is not damaged during the monsoon?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K HANUMANTHAIYA) (a) Yes Open wagons have been used to supplement availability of covered wagons for loading of salt

(b) Open wagons for loading of salt are normally used at the request of the consignors and the tarpaulins are arranged by consignors themselves. The Railway Administration is not obliged to supply tarpaulins when salt is loaded in open wagons at the request of the consignors

Soviet Union's offer to Purchase Cashew Nuts and Coir Goods

4694. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THAKKAR Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state

(a) whether Soviet Union has offered to purchase additional quantity of cashew nuts and coir goods from India, and

(b) if so, the quantity expected to be purchased by Soviet Union and the value thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A C GEORGE) (a) Soviet Union has offered to purchase additional quantities of cashewnuts, but no such request for coir goods has so far been received

(b) The Soviet request for purchase of additional quantity of cashew nuts is under consideration

Loading of Salt as Item 'F' Traffic on Supply

4695, SHRI VEKARIA Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government propose to load salt as item 'E' traffic on Sunday

(b) whether Government also propose that in case no wagons are made available on that day, allotment be made on the succeeding day, and

(c) when these proposals will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K HANUMANTHAIYA) (a) In order to ensure clearance of traffic including salt under priority 'F' on regular basis Sunday or some other day in a week is usually set apart for loading of non programed traffic including non zonal salt strictly in order of date of registration of tenders without observing any priorities

(b) Allotment of item 'E' traffic strictly according to seniority of registration is confined to the above days only and any shortfall in allotment of such traffic on these days can not be made up on succeeding days. Any short supply of wagons against allotments made on these days are, however, made good on following days

(c) Does not arise

Discontent over Import Trade Control Policy

4696 SHRI S C SAMANTA Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state

(a) whether there is discontent among the people over the Import Trade Control Policy for the year 1972/73 and if so, the reasons therefor, and

(b) the steps being taken to remove the causes of discontent?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI