

(c) the amount by which the price has been raised; and

(d) whether the prior permission has been obtained by the Company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) to (d). Government lifted the price control on Premier President cars with effect from 1-1-75. The manufacturers have reported that after the decontrol the exfactory retail selling price of their cars has been increased once by Rs. 1,501 with effect from 8-1-1975. The above price rise was effected due to increase in the cost of manufacture. No prior approval of Government is necessary after discontinuance of price control.

#### Southern Zonal Council Meeting

361. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the Southern Zonal Council was held on 31st December, 1974 in Trivandrum;

(b) if so, the suggestions and recommendations made and whether the 'Song of the Soil' issue figured in the meeting; and

(c) whether any guidelines from the Centre were asked for and if so, whether any uniform guidelines have been worked out for all the States and the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A list of subject discussed at the meeting is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-8923/75]. While reviewing the progress of safeguards for linguistic minorities, it was suggested that the Central Government should

take the initiative in formulating guidelines regarding employment opportunities for linguistic minorities and local candidates. The consensus in the Council was that member-States could forward their suggestions to the Central Government and the matter may be further considered in a conference of Chief Ministers.

#### Changes in Industrial Licensing Policy

362. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to make a radical change in the industrial licensing policy; and

(b) if so, the salient features and objectives thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI T. A. PAI): (a) and (b). The Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956 continues to govern Government's policies for achieving the objectives of growth, social justice and self reliance in the industrial sphere. Within the broad framework of the Industrial Policy Resolution, Government have effected changes from time to time in the industrial licensing policy with a view to stimulate growth, particularly in priority industries of importance to the national economy.

#### Import of Spares for Maharashtra State Electricity Board

363. SHRI DHAMANKAR:

SHRI VASANT SATHE:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether one of the two 140 MW sets at Eklahare (Nasik) is giving a reduced output of only 60 MW and