

(b) whether any preventive measures have been taken to bring down the price;

(c) the prevailing price of kerosene oil in urban and rural areas; and

(d) whether the reduction in the price of crude oil by the ESSO will have any effect on the price of kerosene?

The Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Humayun Kabir):

(a) Temporary increase in price took place at some places due to temporary local shortages and the activities of unsocial elements.

(b) To check increase in price and other malpractices in respect of petroleum products, including kerosene, all State Governments/Union Territories Administrations have been delegated powers under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, to regulate supplies and control prices. Kerosene (Price Control) Order 1963 and Amendments thereto have been issued under the Defence of India Rules to prevent increase in the price of kerosene throughout the country.

(c) The selling prices differ from place to place. However the prevailing ceiling selling prices applicable at date ex-main port installations are as under:—

Port	Rs. per KL	
	Kerosene Superior	Kerosene Inferior
Okha	360.86	..
Kandla	360.33	278.26
Bombay	359.62	276.40
Cochin	360.03	281.76
Madras	368.90	289.26
Vizag.	368.08	288.16
Calcutta	372.98	293.89

To these prices, railway freight is added for supplies at up-country stations by the most economical route from the normal port of supply. Local duties and octroi etc. are payable at the applicable rates.

(d) No, Sir. In terms of the Refinery Agreement the prices of the refinery products are determined on the basis of 'import parity' irrespective of the cost of crude. The reduction of the price of crude will, however, result in saving of free foreign exchange required for import.

Looting of Foodgrain Shops

277. Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of looting incidents of foodgrain shops which occurred in the country during 1963-64 and 1964-65 respectively, statewise; and

(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent the recurrence of such incidents?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri L. N. Mishra): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Publishers' Association

**278. { Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Hem Raj:**

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a copy of resolutions passed at the Second Annual General Meeting of the Publishers' Association of India held in Bombay on 30th June, 1965: