

CONSUMER RESISTANCE

CONSUMER RESISTANCE IS YET ANOTHER SUGGESTION TO THE BRINGING DOWN OF PRICES.

CONSUMER RESISTANCE IS HARDLY EFFECTIVE BECAUSE THERE IS HARDLY ANY CHOICE OF ALTERNATIVE PRODUCTS.



SECONDLY, THE CONSUMER MOVEMENT IS IN ITS INFANCY AND IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO ORGANISE IT ALL OVER THE COUNTRY.

THE COMMUNIST SYSTEM

THE LAST-DITCH REMEDY THAT HAS BEEN SUGGESTED IS THE **COMMUNIST METHOD** OF BRINGING DOWN THE PRICE LEVEL BY **TOTAL CONTROL OVER THE ECONOMY BY THE STATE.**

COMMUNIST COUNTRIES SUFFER FROM **SUPPRESSED INFLATION** WHICH MEANS **SHORTAGE OF GOODS, LONG QUEUES AND ACCUMULATION OF BANK BALANCES.**

FOOD AND CONSUMER GOODS SHORTAGES IS CHARACTERISTIC OF COMMUNIST COUNTRIES, BECAUSE OF THEIR PATTERN OF INVESTMENT FAVOURING HEAVY INDUSTRIES.



THEN AGAIN PRICES ARE DICTATED BY CENTRAL PLANNERS WHETHER THE GOODS ARE AVAILABLE OR NOT. IN COMPUTING THE LIVING INDEX COSTS THE OFFICIAL FIGURE IS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

LASTLY, THE SITUATION IS FURTHER COMPLICATED BY ANOTHER FACTOR: **THE DUAL PRICING SYSTEM:**

THE PRIVILEGED FEW WHO BELONG TO THE COMMUNIST PARTY ARE ENTITLED TO BUY LOCAL AND IMPORTED GOODS IN SPECIAL SHOPS MEANT ONLY FOR THEM AND THAT TOO AT SUBSIDISED RATES.

THE MASS OF PEOPLE HAVE NO ACCESS TO SUCH SHOPS AND DO NOT GET THE ESSENTIALS OF LIFE IN SUFFICIENT QUANTITY.

