

mulated certain schemes to give financial assistance to fisheries cooperatives in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). The National Cooperative Development Corporation has formulated a general scheme of assistance to fisheries cooperatives for expanding their production and marketing activities, establishment of processing units as well as service/repair centres for mechanised boats and other equipment, construction of godowns/sheds, setting up of technical and promotional cells in the National/State/Regional cooperative fisheries federations, preparation of project reports, for establishing processing units and also for training of technical managerial personnel of fisheries cooperatives. The Corporation's assistance will be given to cooperatives through respective state governments. The Corporation has not so far received any proposal from the Kerala Government for assisting fishery cooperatives in that state. On receipt of proposals from the State Government the Corporation will consider giving assistance.

UN Report on Multinational Corporations in India

1673 SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have studied the UN reports on Multinational Corporations;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon; and

(c) steps being taken to restrict the spheres of operation of these corporations in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI B. P MAURYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Government's policy towards foreign investment and colla-

boration including collaborations with multi-national corporations, is highly selective. Import of foreign capital and technology is permitted in sophisticated fields of industry in which technological or critical production gaps exist. Foreign investment, where considered necessary, is normally restricted to 40 per cent.

Through a proper screening of existing as well as future foreign investment and collaboration, the operation of multi-national corporations are made to conform to national priorities.

Various existing Acts and Regulations of the Government provide for adequate controls over the operations of the multi-national corporations in India. These include Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973, Capital Issues (Control) Act, 1949, Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969, and Companies Act, 1956. According to the Industrial Licensing Policy Statement of February, 1973, foreign majority companies are eligible to participate in the areas specified in Appendix I and export-oriented industries. Foreign companies coming up for expansion or diversification are required to associate Indian capital in accordance with the dilution formula announced by the Government.

Setting up of a Television Centre at Bangalore

1674 SHRI P R SHENOY Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether there is a demand from the people and Government of Karnataka for the establishment of a television centre at Bangalore, and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. Certain communications on this subject were received.