

major ports are generally free from congestion.

(b) Some of the short term measures to tackle day to day operational problems such as close monitoring of working vessels, meeting with representatives of port users to identify constraints and remedy them, advance ship planning etc. and long term measures such as creation of new berths and Railway facilities, creation of facility for midstream discharge at Kandla and replacement of obsolete equipments, etc. have been taken

[English]

Poultry Farming in Maharashtra

4780. DR. DAULATRAO SONUJI AHER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Cooperative Development Corporation has stopped giving financial assistance to cooperative poultry projects in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) and (b). No, Sir. NCDC has not stopped sanctioning financial assistance to the cooperative poultry projects in Maharashtra. On the basis of experience and review, the scheme has been revised and new models evolved. All the societies including those in Maharashtra whose proposals were received in the NCDC have been advised to re-submit the proposals in accordance with the new models for consideration by NCDC.

[Translation]

Waiting List for Telephone Connections in Maharashtra

4781. PROF. MAHADEO SHIWANKAR:
SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to State:

(a) the number of applicants under different categories on waiting list for telephone connections in Maharashtra, district wise and exchange-wise as on 30 June 1990;

(b) the reasons for delay in releasing these connections; and

(c) the steps taken for increasing the capacity of telephone exchange so as to clear all the applications on waiting list?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and it will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Posts of Chairmen Lying Vacant in Public Undertakings of Punjab Government

4782. SHRI KIRPAL SINGH. Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Public Undertakings of Punjab Government in which posts of Chairmen are lying vacant;

(b) since when these posts are lying vacant;