

advances made to private agriculturists the State Governments were enjoined not to charge anything more than 1½ per cent more than the interest charged by the Central Government.

श्री क० ना० तिवारी : पिछले वक्त बिहार सरकार ने एग््रीकल्चरिस्ट लोन पर इंटरिस्ट माफ कर दिया था जिसकी कि वजह से काफी लोन रियालाइज हुआ था। उसी तरह बाकी लोन पर भी क्या इंटरिस्ट माफ कर दिया जायेगा जिस में लोन रियालाइज हो सके ?

Shri Shinde: It has been left to the discretion of the State Government.

Shri Warrior: In view of the fact that the amount is so meagre and it is spread over all the States, will Government take any action to close this account by writing off these loans?

Mr. Speaker: Next question... (Interruption). It is a suggestion.

Deep-Sea Fishing on Eastern Coast

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*1053. { **Shri Umanath:**
 { **Shri A. K. Gopalan:**

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether deep-sea fishing along the eastern coast line is to be undertaken shortly;

(b) if so what is the agency through which deep-sea fishing would be undertaken;

(c) whether any foreign firms have offered to undertake this venture; and

(d) if so, the names of the firms and the reactions of Government thereto?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shinde): (a) and (b). Deep Sea Fishing is already being carried out along the Eastern Coast of India by the

Offshore Fishing Organisation of the Central Government at Vizagapatnam and Tuticorin and the trawlers of the West Bengal Government.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

Shri Umanath: Is Government aware of the statement of the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh to the effect that the offers of foreign agencies were rejected and if so, does the Government know which is the foreign agency and what are the reasons for the rejection?

Shri Shinde: The information of the hon. Member is not correct. A private firm, namely, Scindia Engineering Company from Madras had requested the Central Government to sanction a scheme which they had in collaboration with an American firm. This Ministry okayed this scheme. They have informed that the details of the scheme have not been finalised by the American firm. As far as the Central Government is concerned, there was no obstacle whatsoever and there was no direct approach to the Central Government.

Shri Umanath: Is Government aware of the intentions of the Indo-Norwegian project authorities to extend their projects to other areas and if so, does the eastern region also come within their purview?

Shri Shinde: In the eastern region the scheme of deep sea fishing is being operated and it is contemplated that during the Third Plan schemes at Tuticorin and Vizagapatnam would be expanded. Moreover, the scheme would come into operation in Paradip in Orissa and Port Blair in Andamans and Nicobar Islands. At present, three trawlers obtained with TCM aid are placed at the disposal of the West Bengal Government and they are also doing fishing activity in the Bay of Bengal.

Shri P. Kunhan: May I know whether the Government has supplied

mechanised boats to all the trainees who have completed their training.

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): It has not been possible to supply to all the trainees as we have not been able to import adequate number of diesel engines for mechanised boats but as far as the trainees are concerned we are giving them preference and almost all the trainees have now been supplied with mechanised boats.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: May I know whether the Government is aware that some of the trawlers that the West Bengal Government has, have been damaged and cannot be used and that for a long time this whole scheme has been run at a big loss? I want to know whether the whole matter has been investigated and whether any help from the central Government will be available to make it a really profitable scheme.

Shri A. M. Thomas: We have no information as to the damaged condition of any of these trawlers; we will enquire.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: The hon. Minister referred to Andhra and the east coast. Is there not as much, if not more, scope for such fishing in the troubled waters of Kerala off the West Coast?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Shri Bade.

Shri Tyagi: He means red-herring!

श्री बड़े क्या यह बात सच है कि जापान गवर्नमेंट भारत सरकार से डीप फिशिंग के वास्ते भी धर्वा सी है और क्या भारत सरकार इस में उनकी मदद लेना चाहती है ?

Shri A. M. Thomas: With regard to that we had some proposals but no proposal has succeeded so far. The only proposal that has reached the Central Government is the one that has already been mentioned by my hon. colleague the Parliamentary

Secretary. No other proposal has come before the Central Government.

Damodar Valley Corporation

*1505. **Shri Tyagi:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) what action Government have taken on para 69 of the report of P. S. Rau Committee which had been appointed to investigate into the economic working of the Damodar Valley Corporation;

(b) whether this committee pointed out that the value of inadmissible claims allowed to one of their contractors was Rs. 119 lakhs; and

(c) whether this expenditure has been regularised or refunded to the Corporation?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power (Shri Alagesan): (a) The matter was referred for arbitration.

(b) Yes; Sir.

(c) The arbitrator announced his award on 12th April, 1961. The Corporation has, however, filed an appeal in the Calcutta High Court for setting aside the award. The matter is subjudice.

Shri Tyagi: What was the result of the award? I want to know whether the decree was in favour of the Government or whether the case was dismissed.

Shri Alagesan: Before the arbitrator both the DVC and the contractor filed their claims. The arbitrator went into all these claims and announced his award.

Some Hon. Members: We do not hear him; he is not audible.

Mr. Speaker: What was the award?

Shri Alagesan: There were claims preferred both by the DVC and by the contractor before the arbitrator. The arbitrator went into all the individual claims and gave his award. But the