

STOCK EXCHANGES

*1271. **Dr. J. N. Parekh:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the policy of Government towards the regulation of stock-exchanges in India?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Shri M. C. Shah): A Bill for the Regulation of Contracts in Securities has already been drafted. Government propose to introduce it in Parliament as soon as possible. The policy underlying the Bill is to control the working of Stock Exchanges by assuming powers to regulate their constitution and trading methods and practices, with the object of preventing undesirable transactions in securities.

Dr. J. N. Parekh: Does the Government think that the stock-exchanges as at present are not functioning properly?

Shri M. C. Shah: There are certain defective methods there, and as a matter of fact under the Constitution this is a Central subject and we want to have a Bill to control all the stock-exchanges in the country.

Dr. J. N. Parekh: May I know whether it is proposed to use the machinery relating to forward markets for this, or will there be a new machinery?

Shri M. C. Shah: There will be provision for a new machinery in this Bill. There is that Company Organisation in the Finance Ministry (Economic Affairs) and for the time being this administration will be taken over by that Department, and later on we propose to have Councils wherein we will associate representatives of the industry and trade also in the administration of this work.

REPLACEMENT OF NAVAL SHIPS

*1273. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to replace the present ships of Indian Navy by better and new ones; and

(b) if so, the number of new ships that Government propose to buy for this purpose?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) Yes, gradually.

(b) It will not be in public interest to disclose the information.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether it would be in the public interest to disclose the amount of money that is likely to be spent on this account?

Shri Satish Chandra: This replacement programme will be spread over many years and the expenditure will depend upon the cost of the ships available. It will vary from year to year. The cost of a ship will depend upon the cost of construction and cost of materials in foreign countries in a particular year.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is it true that some of these ships which are likely to be purchased are to be built in India also?

Shri Satish Chandra: Yes, Sir; some of the ships will be built in India. In fact, an order for a ship has already been placed on the Ship-building Yard at Visakhapatnam. Construction of another ship will probably be entrusted to them soon, and smaller vessels will also be built in India by private companies.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Do Government propose to have a Naval Construction Department at Naval Headquarters?

Shri Satish Chandra: Yes, Sir. The idea is to have a Naval Constructors Branch in the Naval Headquarters with a view to assist in drawing up the specifications, etc. for building of new ships in India and abroad.

Shri Kaaliwal: May I know when the new ship "Nigeria" will be put into commission?

Shri Satish Chandra: It will be about two years.