

(a) the number of proposals for joint venture abroad scrutinised by the Government during the last one year till date; and

(b) the number of such proposals cleared by Government during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). The Government have since January 1991 scrutinised 76 proposals for setting up joint ventures abroad and cleared 53 of them.

[*Translation*]

Shipping Corporation of India Fleet

7934. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ships in the fleet of Shipping Corporation of India;

(b) the operational age of a ship as per the criteria fixed by the Corporation;

(c) the number of ships that have overlived their life span; and

(d) the action being taken to add new ships to the fleet?

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The present fleet of Shipping Corporation of India Limited is 128 vessels of 51 lakhs DWT.

(b) The operational age of a ship as per the criteria fixed by Government in respect of various categories of ship are as under :-

1. Bulk carrier and liner vessel: 20 year
2. Tanker, Edible oil carrier

Easy chemical carrier : 20 years

3. Coastal ship : 24 years

4. Other chemical and phosphoric acid Carrier : 15 years

5. LPG carrier : 25 years

6. OSV : 16 years

7. Deillship : 25 years

(c) There are four ships in the fleet of Shipping Corporation of India Limited which have over-lived their economics life.

(d) Shipping Corporation of India have submitted a Block proposal for the acquisition of 21 vessels which is under consideration in the Government. The Shipping Corporation of India have also proposed to acquire 114 vessels by the end of 8th Five Year Plan period.

[*English*]

Financial Assistance to Rajasthan

7935. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of financial assistance/aid allocated to the Government of Rajasthan during 1991-92;

(b) whether the assistance/aid allocated to the state has been released in full; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) and (b). Central assistance allocated/released to the Government of Rajasthan for their Annual Plan during 1991-92 is as under