

**Acquisition of New Ships**

(f) if so, the details thereof?

\*168. **SHRI VEJAY NAVAL PA-TIL:** Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of the Government regarding acquisition of new ships;

(b) whether the Government have estimated the dead weight tonnage (DWT) of fleet required by the year 2000;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) how much replacement of existing tonnage is likely to be required;

(e) whether the Government have worked out the financial requirements; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The policy of the Government is to encourage acquisition of new ships, keeping in view the requirement of tonnage to meet the transport needs of the country's sea borne trade and the need to support Indian Shipyards.

(b) to (f) The Planning Group on Shipping set up by Planning Commission estimated in 1987 the tonnage required to be acquired by 2000 A.D. and the corresponding investment required at the prevalent exchange rates to be made to finance this acquisition on the basis of four scenarios. The details are given below:—

|                                       | Tonnage (Million DWT)       |                         |                                      | Total Investment (Rs. crores) |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
|                                       | Total required by 2000 A.D. | Additional acquisitions | Of which for replacement (1987-2000) |                               |
| (i) High cargo and high market share  | 11.6                        | 9.0                     | 7.1                                  | 8,100                         |
| (ii) High cargo and low market share  | 10.3                        | 7.7                     | 7.1                                  | 7,200                         |
| (iii) Low cargo and high market share | 10.7                        | 8.1                     | 7.1                                  | 7,500                         |
| (iv) Low cargo and low market share   | 9.6                         | 6.9                     | 7.1                                  | 6,700                         |

**Change in Import-Export Policy**

\*169. **SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have announced a major policy change in the import-export trade keeping in view the consequences recorded after devaluation of rupee in the country;

(b) whether the balance of payments would be adversely affected in the near future with more import trade than export trade orientation; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.