

[*English*]**Central Assistance to Karnataka**

2840. SHRI KODAKANI GOWDANA SHIVAPPA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has submitted a memorandum to the Union Government seeking Central assistance to the tune of Rs. 50 crores;

(b) whether the request of the Government of Karnataka has been agreed to; and

(c) if so, the amount released so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of Karnataka has submitted a memorandum containing a request seeking *inter alia*, an assistance of Rs. 50 crores to tackle scarcity conditions in Northern Karnataka.

(b) and (c). A Calamity relief Fund based on the recommendations of the Ninth Finance Commission been set up in Karnataka with effect from 1.4.1990 for the period 1990-95. The allocation to the Fund is Rs. 27 crores to which Centre is to contribute Rs. 20.25 crores (75%) and State Rs. 6.75 crores (25%) annually. All expenditure on natural calamities is required to be met out of the Fund without any authorisation from or reference to the Centre. The Centre's contribution to the Fund for the year 1990-91 and 1991-92 amounting to Rs. 40.50 crores have been released. No additional assistance is proposed to be released to the State during the current year.

Cargo Support for Ships

2841. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA):

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU:

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1371 on November 29, 1991 and state:

(a) whether the Government have finalised the proposal regarding cargo support for Indian ships;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which the proposal is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGADISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Reservations have been expressed in some quarters about this proposal and these are being sorted out in consultation with concerned Ministry. It is not possible to indicate the time by which the proposal is likely to be finalised.

[*Translation*]**Supply of Cotton to NTC Units in Rajasthan**

2842. SHRI GIRIDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rajasthan units of the National Textile Corporation are facing great difficulties in production due to non-supply of cotton;

(b) if so, the total demand of cotton of the above units; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by the Government for the regular supply of cotton to these units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The mills of National Textile Corporation in Rajasthan require 140 bales per day which are adequately covered.

Salaries and other facilities to judges in Supreme Court and other Courts

2843. SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the salaries and other facilities of the judges of the Supreme Court and other courts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b). The pursuance of proposals asponsored by the Chief Justice of India, the Government has issued orders enhancing the Daily Allowance payable on tour and enhancement in the limits for free furnishings in the case of judges of the High Courts and Supreme Court and enhancement in the ceilings for electricity and water charges at the official residence and postretiral benefits in the case of judges of the Supreme Court. As regards the question of enhancement in the pay scales of the Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts, the Conference of Chief Justices in their meeting held during 30th August to 1st September, 91 passed a Resolution proposing such an enhancement.

No decision has yet been taken on this suggestion.

[English]

Changes in Shipping Policy

2844. SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU: SHRI VJAY NAVAL PATIL:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to make changes in the shipping policy to encourage the Indian Shipping Companies; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The salient features may include relaxation in licensing to Indian Shipping Companies to operate on selected liner routes; Grant of freedom of Shipowners for sale of ships and for application of sale proceeds, after meeting outstanding foreign exchange liabilities, for acquiring new ships; encouragement to medium sized shipyards to export fishing trawlers and smaller crafts; promotion of ship building; liberalisation of procedures for acquisition of vessels; encouragement to cross border leasing of vessels; grant of permission to shipowners to mortgage ships abroad to raise foreign exchange resources etc.

Working Group on Credit Requirements of Industries in Punjab

2845. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has constituted a high level working group to