

(ब) यदि नहीं, तो इस दिशा में क्या कार्यवाही करने का प्रस्ताव है; और

(ग) इस समय लक्षद्वीप द्वीप समूह से मुख्य भूमि तक जाने तथा वापस जाने में कितना समय लगता है और क्या इस यात्रा में लगने वाले समय को कम करने संबंधी प्रस्ताव पर विचार किया जा रहा है?

नीचहन और परिवहन मंत्रालय में राज्यमंत्री (जी एच० एम० त्रिवेदी) :

(क) जी, हाँ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ग) लक्षद्वीप द्वीप समूह से कोचीन और वापसी की पूरी समुद्री यात्रा में 6 से आठ दिन के बीच का समय लगता है जो कि जाने वाले पत्तनों पर निर्भर करता है और जिसमें कोचीन में जहाजों का लगभग तीन दिन रुकना शामिल है। समुद्री यात्रा के समय को कम करने की कोई गुंजाइश नहीं है।

Request of SCI to acquire General Cargo Vessels from Japanese Shipyard

1673 SHRI M S PURTY Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) whether Shipping Corporation of India has requested Government to acquire at least six general cargo vessels from a major Japanese shipyard,

(b) whether prior to this some contracts had earlier been made with the Japanese shipyards, and

(c) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H M TRIVEDI)

(a) Government have approved that six multi-purpose general cargo vessels may be acquired from Mitsubishi Heavy Industry, Japan. Out of these, four vessels will be acquired by the Shipping Corporation of India Ltd

(b) Yes, Sir

(c) During the current decade the Shipping Corporation of India Ltd., has acquired six tankers and one bulk carrier from Japan. The price of all the six tankers was paid by delivery, with the help of World Bank loan for four tankers and commercial foreign exchange loans for the remaining two. The bulk carrier was acquired with shipyard credit covering 80 per cent of the price repayable in 18 half-yearly instalments at 7.75 per cent per annum

Exports by Indian Telephone Industries

1674 SHRI RAJDEO SINGH Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Indian Telephone Industries has plans to enter the export market in a big way competing on the basis of quality, price and performance of equipment,

(b) whether previously ITI has exported stronger Exchange equipment and telephones to more than forty countries, and

(c) if so, the reputation of the already exported machines and material in the importing countries?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Yes, Sir

(c) The machines and material exported are having good reputation

Harijans and Adivasis freed from Indebtedness

1675 SHRI RAM PRAKASH Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state the number of the adivasis, harijans and other downtrodden people who have been freed from the clutches of money-lenders and their mortgaged property restored to them, State-wise?