

[English]

**Steps to Meet the Defence Needs Indigenously**

4225. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal before Government to encourage our scientists and technocrats to meet the defence needs of our country indigenously; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) and (b). It is always the endeavour of the Government to encourage Defence Scientists and Technologists with a view to meet the Defence requirements of the country. A number of measures which include provision of Flexible Complimenting, in situ promotion, better pay scales, awards etc., have been taken.

**Rates of Excise Duty on Mechanised Fishing Boats**

4226. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the mechanised fishing boats with engines of power higher than 150 H.P. are given concessions while those with lower horse power are not given such concessions;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether his Ministry will remove this discrimination about the concessions on excise duty on diesel ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI) : (a) to (c). Concessional rates of excise duty are available to diesel oil for use in deep sea fishing vessels of not less than 150 B.H.P. and of length not less than 13.7 metres. Similar concession is not available for fishing vessels of lower horse power. The question of extending the concession to smaller fishing vessels was examined in the past, but it was not found feasible, because of serious administrative

difficulties and risks to revenue.

**Proposal to open Banks on Sundays**

4227. KUMARI D.K. THARA DEVI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to open banks at least for one hour on Sundays, and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Bank Loans under 20-Point Programme**

4228. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons granted loans from the banks under the 20-point programme during the last one year;

(b) out of the amount so granted how much was given as subsidy and how much as loan;

(c) the amount earmarked for this purpose during the current financial year; and

(d) the amount spent during the first quarter of the current financial year and on how many families ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d). Details of credit assistance provided by the public sector banks for activities/purposes identified under the Twenty point programme (TPP) as at the end of December 1986 and March 1987 are indicated below :

As at the end of	Number of accounts (in lakhs)	Balance outstanding (Rs. in crores)
December 1986	151.73	7896.90
March 1987	161.91	8458.29