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with modern plant and machinery, to stream line systems sand improve productivity.

[English]

Hiring of Oil Tankers by Shipping Corporation of India

2023. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

SHRI M.V. CHANDRA SHEKARA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have approached private sector shipping companies for hiring of oil tankers to replace the ageing fleet of oil tankers of the Shipping Corporation of India;
- (b) if so, the details of the private sector shipping companies to whom the Government have approached;
- (c) whether the private sector shipping companies have agreed for hiring of oil tankers; and
- (d) if so, the terms and conditions for the purpose?

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

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) The Government have given permission to the following shipping companies to acquire oil tankers with the option to enter into suitable arrangement with the Shipping Corporation of India for employment of tanks on a charter-cumdemise basis;
 - 1. M/s. Essar Shipping.

2. M/s. Reliance Industries.

3. M/s. India Steamship Company.

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4. M/s. Century Shipping.

Out of the above four companies, two companies have responded with their bids to Shipping Corporation of India.

(d) Under the above arrangement, the vessels given to Shipping Corporation of India on charter-cum-demise will be treated as Shipping Corporation of India vessels for all intents and purposes and these will be deployed with Oil Coordination Committee (OOC) in lieu of Shipping Corporation of India tankers/OBOs.

Committee on Revival of Sick Jute Industry

2024. SHRID. VENKATESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government have set up a High Powered Committee to examine the revival of sick jute industry;
- (b) if so, the details of recommendations and the action taken by the Government thereon so far; and
- (c) if not, the time by which the report is likely to be submitted by the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (c). A statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT

Government had set up a High Powered Committee to study the current developments in the jute sector and recommend strategies and policy measures to increase modernisation, diversification and exports.