

(a) the number of children repatriated since August, 1992 so far from West Asian countries where they had been taken to be used as jockeys, in camel races;

(b) whether the Government have taken any steps for the rehabilitation of the repatriated children,

(c) whether any of the children are reported to have died in these countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the steps taken by the Government to approach the Government of these countries in this regard;

(f) whether there is any proposal to raise this issue at international level; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA):

(a) One

(b) Information in this regard is being collected and will be placed on the tables of the House.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise

(e) Camel racing is popular only in the U.A.E. As soon as any case of an Indian child camel rider comes to the notice of the Indian Mission concerned, it is taken up with the host Government for repatriation of the child to India.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) It is primarily the responsibility of the Government of India to take necessary steps in

this regard.

FAO Assistance for Revival of Deep Sea Fishing Industry.

6744 PROF. UMARADDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item appeared in the Economic Times dated March 20, 1993 regarding revival of deep sea fishing industry;

(b) if so, whether the Government have approached Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the response of FAO thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c): The Government had earlier approached the World Bank in this regard. Presently, the World Bank has informed that deep sea fishing is not one of the priorities of their Agriculture Division's pipeline; They have, however, stated that the subject is interesting and important and they would share with Government of India an information of possible assistance if it becomes available.

[Translation]

More Foreign Post Offices in Maharashtra

6745. SHRI VILASRAO NAGANATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open more foreign post offices in Maharashtra; and