

level of courses 'O' (Foundation), 'A' (Advanced Diploma), 'B' (Graduate) and 'C' (Post-Graduate). The A, B and C level qualifications are considered equivalent to the following diploma/degrees in the non-formal sector for the purpose of employment:

A level: Post-Graduate Diploma in Computer Applications (PGDCA)- Post Polytechnic Diploma in Computer Applications (PPDCA).

B Level: B. Tech. (Computer Science).

C Level: M.Tech. (Computer Science).

[*Translation*]

Manufacture of Solar-Operated Vehicles

1299. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to manufacture solar-powered vehicles; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A Calcutta-based company has mooted a proposal from import of technology from U.K. and manufacture of battery-operated vehicles, assisted by solar photovoltaic pannels. The proposal envisages import of six prototypes for testing on Indian roads and subsequent manufacture of 25,000 vehicles per annum at a total investment of about Rs. 20 crores.

[*English*]

Foreign Trawlers

1300. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents which came to the notice of the Government during the last three years in respect of encroaching upon India's Exclusive Economic Zone by foreign trawlers;

(b) the number of foreign trawlers which have been confiscated during the said period;

(c) to what use they are being put; and

(d) the quantity of fish recovered during the above period and the amount earned therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) During the last 3 years, 146 foreign fishing trawlers were apprehended for encroaching upon India's Exclusive Economic Zone. The apprehensions were made under the Maritime Zones of India Act 1981.

(b) 83 fishing trawlers were confiscated during this period.

(c) The confiscated trawlers are disposed of in accordance with court orders.

(d) A total of 190.81 tons of fish was recovered from the trawlers and auctioned under court orders, pending trial proceedings. The amount was deposited with the court pending finalisation of cases.