

Requirement of Ships

3649. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to allot ten per cent of our requirement of ships to our shipyards for the coming three years on negotiated terms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the other steps proposed to be taken for making the shipyards of our country competitive against foreign shipyards?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) A revised package regarding pricing and financing of ocean going ships has been issued by Government on 8.9.93 consisting of the following :

- (i) The price of an ocean going vessel to be built at Indian Public Sector yards may be fixed on the basis that the public sector yard would participate in the open tender and be permitted to match the lowest bid and thereafter be entitled to 30% extra price over the above price, 20% being payable by the Government and 10% by the ship owner.
- (ii) Loans at concessional rate of 9% to the extent of 80% of the cost of a ship may be given to the shipping companies placing or-

ders with Indian yards. The interest subsidy will be administered by Ministry of Surface Transport. These funds may be routed through the yards.

- (iii) Fixation of price in terms of US \$/Japanese Yen and the ship owners to pay each stage in instalment to the shipyard at market determined parity rate of foreign exchange prevailing on the date of actual payment. The date of payment however, will be as per the contract schedule and the shipyards will not be entitled to any valuation beyond the stipulated date. Suitable clause for paying liquidated damages for delays in completion of work will be incorporated in the contract.
- (iv) The subsidy to be released by Government will be paid along with the payments received by the shipyards for stage payments as per the prevailing market determined rate of exchange.
- (v) Ships for which the import content is likely to exceed the price of the same vessel should not be built indigenously.

The price benefit envisaged at (i) above shall be admissible for a period of two years.

Permission for Mining

3650. SHRI ANNA JOSHI :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of NRI companies and multinational companies that have applied for permission for mining in the country;

(b) the number of such companies granted permission during the last one year and the details of agreement reached thereon; and

(c) the time by which these companies are likely to start commercial production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected from various State Governments and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Land Route for Indian Visitors to Myanmar

3651. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH :
SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI :
SHRI MANJAY LAL :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal is under the consideration between the Union Government and Myanmar for allowing Indian citizens to visit Myanmar on Indian Passport in order to facilitate them to meet their relatives in Myanmar; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government in

this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA) : (a) and (b) Indian passport holders can presently travel to Myanmar by air. There is presently no proposal for their travel by the land route.

Post Offices in Madhya Pradesh

3652. SHRI BHEEM SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1748 on July 20, 1992 and state :

(a) the targets fixed and achieved during 1992-93; and

(b) the number of new Post Offices opened in the rural areas of Madhya Pradesh during above period, district wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) during 1992-93, against a target for opening of 62 post offices, 114 post offices were opened.

(b) The number of new post offices opened in the rural areas of Madhya Pradesh, district-wise, during the year 1992-93 is given in the Statement enclosed.

STATEMENT

Details of Number of Post Offices Opened During 1992-93 in Madhya Pradesh Circle, District-wise

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Name of the District</i>	<i>Post Offices opened during 1992-93</i>
1.	Bhopal	-