(c) the loss incurred as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANS-PORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) There are no unclaimed 'ocean going vessels' repaired and lying in any of the Public Sector Shipyards for the past three years.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Operation of foreign vessels

4657. DR. GUNWANT RAMBHAU SARODE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be plaesed to state:

- (a) whether the Union government have cleared the proposal of GP Group of Thailand who have offered to start operating their vessels from this country;
- (b) if so, whether the R.B.I. has cleared the proposal; and
 - (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANS-PORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Government have cleared the proposal of M/s. Gee Pee Shipping Limited for in principle approval for the acquisition of one second hand bulk carrier.

(b) and (c). The Reserve Bank of India approval is required only after the vessel is identified by the company.

[Translation]

Peservation of Fruits and Vegetables

4658. SHRI GUMAN MAL
LODHA:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:
MAJ. GEN. (RETD.)
BHUWAN CHANDRA
KHANDURI:

Will the Minister of FOOD PRO-CESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large quantity of fruits and vegetables are wasted due to inadequate and inefficient storage, transportation and processing facilities particularly in Andhra Pradesh and Garhwal Hills of Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, whether prices of fruits and vegetables have increased sharply because of this wastage;
- (c) the efforts made by the government to ensure optimal utilisation of these raw materials;
- (d) whether the Union Government are providing financial assistance to food processing training and research centres; and
- (e) if so, the State-wise and Union Territory-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESS-ING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI):
(a) Post harvest losses in fruits & vegetables do occur due to inadequate