

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) to (b) The World Bank has been suggesting, from time to time, various measures to improve the working of the power sector, which inter-alia includes restructuring of the State Electricity Boards, commercialisation of operations of the Central Public Sector Undertakings, association of private sector in both generation and distribution and establishment of independent Central & State regulators.

(c) A few State Governments have taken steps towards initiation of the process of restructuring of their Electricity Boards. The Central Government has been concerned about these issues and has been encouraging measures in this regard.

DEEP SEA FISHING

1879. Shri Somjibhai Damor :
Shri Chitta Basu :

Will the **Minister of Food Processing Industries** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have given licenses to Multinational Companies for fishing in the coastal areas of West Bengal, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Gujarat etc. so far;

(b) if so, the names of the Companies and other relevant details as on July 31, 1995 State-wise;

(c) whether review Committee appointed by the Government for indepth study of the situation arising out of Deep Sea Fishing Policy has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (Shri Tarun Gogoi) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) The tenure of the Committee has recently been extended upon 30th September, 1995 by which time it is expected to give its report.

STEEL YARD FOR SAIL

1880. Prof. K.v. Thomas : Will the **Minister of Steel** be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made in the construction of the steel yard for the Steel Authority of India Ltd., at Cochin;

(b) when the construction was started;

(c) whether there is a delay in the construction of this yard;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) when this yard is likely to be operational?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Steel (Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev) : (a) to (e) The development work for the stockyard at Cochin was started in October, 1991. All the work except for some items like black topping, railway siding and finishing work has been already been completed. Some of the civil engineering work had to be suspended since September, 1993 on account of excessive settlement of the ground. However the necessary investigation has since been completed and the balance work of black topping and other finishing work is planned to be taken up after the monsoon. The stockyard is likely to be operational after commissioning of the railway siding. For this purpose SAIL has already made a proposal to Railways to provide a suitable railway siding to the yard.

[Translation]

TRANSPORTATION CHARGES

1881. Shri Surajbhanu Solanki : Will the **Minister of Chemicals and Fertilisers** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government provide transportation charges (secondary freight) for transportation of controlled fertilisers to the development block;

(b) if so, the date on which the transportation charges were approved;

(c) whether transportation charges are being paid at the rate of Rs. 52/- per tonne for transportation of controlled fertiliser particularly urea to Development Block at present;

(d) whether the said charges are being paid for several years and it has not since been increased; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The scheme of secondary freight subsidy for indigenous fertilizers was introduced by the Government with effect from 3-7-1980. The scheme was extended to imported fertilisers with effect from 28-8-1980. The secondary freight payable varies from State to State. At present, the minimum and maximum rates are Rs.12/- and Rs. 301/- per metric tonne, respectively. The rates applicable from 1-11-1985 were increased with effect from 1989-90 for the States of Himachal Pradesh and Tripura. The rates for Jammu & Kashmir were enhanced from 1987-88 and the rates for Assam, Manipur, Sikkim and Mizoram from 1990-91.

[English]

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO MALAYSIA

1882. Prof. M. Kamson :
Shri Ramchandra Ghangare :

Will the **Minister of External Affairs** be pleased to state :