

and to their satisfaction. The rounds were issued after successful proof testing of both the primer and ammunition rounds in respect of these two versions. Out of these 39,485 rounds supplied, a portion was used. No problems were reported.

A third version of the ammunition known as 125 mm FSAPDS which is a tank armour piercing ammunition was indigenously developed employing the same proof tested primer 'Y'. During the testing of this third version, that is the FSAPDS, an accident took place. Two lives were lost and one tank was damaged.

Investigations revealed that the accident was most probably due to operation called 'beading' not having been carried out during the manufacture of Primer 'Y'. A committee was constituted to further examine all aspects relating to safety from all angles and it recommended that besides beading another operation known as "Three point stabbing" be also performed during manufacture of the primer. The Primer is now being manufactured with these operations and no abnormalities have been reported.

Following the accident, 28,377 unused rounds of the first two versions out of the lot of 39,485 which had been supplied were segregated and taken up for rectification even though in respect of these two versions no problems had been reported.

[*Translation*]

Capacity of Ports

748. SHRI VINAY KATIYAR :
KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the capacity of each major ports in the country;

(b) the total percentage of their capacity being utilised at present;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase the capacity as well as basic facilities at the ports;

(d) whether the foreign investors are encouraged by the announcement of new port policy; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b) The details of capacity available at various Major Ports as on

31.3.1997 and Traffic handled during 1996-97 are given in Statement attached.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir, it is proposed to enhance the Port Capacity during 9th Five Year Plan by around 122 million tonnes. The Foreign investors having necessary clearance from FIPB/Competent Authority and Registered/Proposed to register as a company under Indian Companies Act can be considered for Private Sector projects other than pilotage.

Statement

Details of the capacity available at various Major Ports as on 31.3.1997 and the Traffic Handled during 1996-97.

(In Million Tonnes)

Name of the Port	Capacity as on 31.3.1997 (re-assessed)	Traffic handled
Calcutta	7.87	6.02
Haldia	17.70	17.06
Paradip	10.90	11.58
Visakhapatnam	31.95	34.50
Chennai	25.40	31.85
Tuticorin	7.60	9.17
Cochin	13.46	11.63
New Mangalore	16.45	12.45
Mormugao	19.18	17.37
JL Nehru	9.90	8.10
Mumbai	30.80	33.71
Kandla	24.00	33.73
Total :	215.21	227.14