

by Foreign Vessels) Act, 1981 is already in force to control poaching by foreign flag vessels in Indian waters.

(b) The Coast Guard implements this Act in Indian Waters.

(c) A total of 97 foreign fishing vessels along with 1247 persons were caught poaching between 1st January, 1993 and 28th November, 1995.

(d) The masters of the foreign flag vessels found fishing unauthorisedly in Indian waters are proceeded against in a court of law and further action is taken as per the decision of the court under the provisions of the MZI Act.

#### **Fare in DTC Buses**

1078. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a commuter travelling in a DTC bus upto 8 kms is required to purchase Rs. 2/- ticket;

(b) if so, whether the same commuter can travel upto 10 kms by purchasing Rs. 1/- ticket twice;

(c) if so, the reasons for charging Rs. 3/- as fare from the commuters travelling in between 9 to 10 kms; and

(d) the corrective steps the Government propose to take to remove such disparities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. RAJASEKARA MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The issue of anomalous situation in the present fare structure has been discussed by the Board of Directors of DTC in its meeting held on 29-11-1995. The issue will be examined by the Government on the receipt of the recommendation from DTC.

#### **MOUs Signed with U.S.A.**

1079. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister of Power paid a visit to the U.S.A. during June, 1995;

(b) if so, the purpose of the visit;

(c) the details of the agreements and memoranda of understanding signed during the visit with U.S. counter part; and

(d) the steps being taken in pursuance thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The purpose of the visit was to clear the

apprehensions in the minds of prospective U.S. investors about the Indian Private Power Programme and to encourage private foreign investment, while participating in the following conferences there:

- (i) Alternatives to Counter Guarantee;
- (ii) Power Projects in India - profitable partnerships and Financial Strategies; and
- (iii) Sixth Annual Independent Conference on India Power.

(c) No agreement and memoranda of understanding were signed during the visit.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Bhopal Gas Tragedy**

1080. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of courts pertaining to Bhopal Gas Tragedy set up so far and the number of courts likely to be set up during the current year;

(b) the amount of compensation paid so far by the courts;

(c) the amount allocated so far by the Supreme Court to Welfare Commissioner, Bhopal for providing compensation; and

(d) the total amount including principal amount and interest deposited with the Supreme Court for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND OCEAN DEPARTMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). The process of adjudication of compensation claims commenced in February, 1992 and funds for payment of compensation were made available by the Hon'ble Supreme Court to the Welfare Commissioner in October, 1992. 44 courts are adjudicating the compensation claims and 12 more courts are proposed to be set up. Of the amount of about Rs. 1000/- crores, transferred by the Supreme Court in the account of Welfare Commissioner, the Reserve Bank of India has allocated Rs. 662.82 crores upto 31.10.1995 and an amount of Rs. 573.84 crores has been utilised for payment of compensation.

[English]

#### **NTPC/NHPC**

1081. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the present status regarding various new projects