

matter. Thus it is the State Transport Authorities in all the States and Union Territories who consider the question of fixing the fares and freights. They take into account the representations as may be received from the parties concerned.

2. According to the information furnished by the State Governments and Union Territories, the question of increase in fares for auto-rickshaws, buses, taxis is already under consideration and they will follow the procedure as under Section 43 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939. The Government of Gujarat has intimated that an ad hoc increase in fares for auto-rickshaws has been allowed pending the final decision in the matter. The Government of Maharashtra have intimated that the Regional Transport Authorities in some of the regions have revised the fares of taxis and auto-rickshaws. The Government of Tamil Nadu has intimated that although no final decision has been taken, the fares have been revised in case of Auto-rickshaws and Taxis with effect from 16-6-80. The Delhi Administration has intimated that they have increased the fare in shape of increase in surcharge for taxis and auto-rickshaws. The Government of Jammu and Kashmir has intimated that they have increased the fare and freight in respect of buses, taxis and trucks. It may also be noted that the price rise decision was not taken by the Ministry of Shipping and Transport

#### Head Office at Patna of inland waterways

2915. SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of 5200 km of major rivers navigable by mechanised crafts, only 1700 are actually utilised;

(b) whether it is also a fact that for want of Head Office at Patna of Inland Waterways, the work is suffering tremendously; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to take steps for the development of inland water transport and also to set up Head Office at Patna?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). It is not a fact that for want of Head Office at Patna of the Inland Water Transport Directorate of the Ministry of Shipping and Transport the development of inland water transport is suffering. Steps have been/are being taken for development of inland water transport in the country for which purpose provision is made in the Five Year Plans of the Central Govt. for Central as well as Centrally Sponsored Schemes. Provision is also made in the Five Year Plans of the State Govts. for development of State Plan schemes for this mode of transport in their respective territories. It is not possible to have the Head Office of I.W.T. Directorate at Patna as this Directorate has to deal with development of I.W.T. for the whole country.

12.0 hrs.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): There is a privilege motion against Shri B. Shankaranand....

MR. SPEAKER: Tomorrow

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: My submission is if the Minister has not seen the paper, that is an internal 'bandobast'. The House is not concerned. Once you allow this, then it will go on every time and the House will be reduced to a mockery.

MR. SPEAKER: Tomorrow.

श्री राम बिलास पासवान (हाजीपुर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, पूरी दिल्ली में टेलीफोन खराब पड़े हुए हैं। दो हजार से अधिक टेलीफोन खराब हैं। आप के यहां लगाते हैं तब नहीं मिलता है, मिनिस्टर के यहां लगाते हैं तब नहीं मिलता है। खराब केबल लगा कर के पूरा पैसा ले लिया गया है—

MR. SPEAKER: You come under 377 tomorrow.