

(c) and (d) In view of (b) above question does not arise.

[English]

AMOUNT PAID BY SCI TO GREEK COMPANY

2101. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:
SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN :
SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Shipping Corporation of India chartered a 32 years old Greek vessel M.V. Fibi for six months to carry passengers from Madras to Port Blair without calling for any global tenders ;

(b) whether the Shipping Corporation of India have paid heavy amount in foreign exchange for failure of the vessel to obtain the mandatory 'A' certificate for sea worthness ;

(c) if so, the reasons for flouting the norms for inviting global tenders ;

(d) the total amount paid by the Shipping Corporation of India to the Greek company in accordance with the charter agreement ;

(e) whether the Government have made any inquiry into the gross irregularity committed by the Corporation ; and

(f) if so, the details thereof stating the reaction of the Government with regard thereto ;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) The Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. chartered the passenger vessel m.v. Fibi for operation on mainland-Andaman services, after following their well established procedure of floating enquires through empanelled Indian and foreign shipbrokers who submit offers on a global basis. The procedure followed by the SCI is an accepted practice in international shipping market, which gives wider coverage for the particular types of ships available globally at the most competitive rates and terms.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Do not arise.

(d) The total amount of provisional charter hire paid to the owner of the vessel till 23-7-93 is US \$ 11.50 lakhs.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Do not arise.

REPATRIATION OF CHAKMA REFUGEES

2102. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL :

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

SHRI CHITTA BASU :

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI :

DR. JAYANTA RONGPI :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement has been reached with Bangladesh for the repatriation of Chakma refugees recently ;

(b) whether these refugees refused to return to that country unless their 13 point charter of demands were fulfilled ;

(c) whether the Government have taken up these issues with that country to ensure the early return of these refugees ;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard ;

(e) whether the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh put forward any proposal regarding invitation to a delegation of refugees to visit Chittagong Hill Tracts; and

(f) If so, the details thereof and response of Chakma leaders thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) Yes, Sir. A detailed understanding, in line with the agreement between the two Prime Ministers, was reached during the Communication Minister of Bangladesh, Col. Oli Ahmed's visit in May 1993.

(b) Yes, Sir.