

1	2
30. Mizorm	—
31. Pondicherry	—
Total	81

(P) : Provisional (**) Not available (—); Nil

N. B. : Information relates to closures due to reasons other than Industrial Disputes and excludes off season closures.

Decline in shrimp catches

465. SHRI R. S. MANE :

SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was a reduction in catches of shrimp during the last year;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to protect the depletion of such shrimp resources;

(c) the number of new deep-sea trawlers that will start fishing in 1986; and

(d) whether further depletion will occur due to more such boats ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) There was no reduction in shrimp catches during 1985. However export has declined by 5049 tonnes during 1985-86 compared to 1984-85.

(b) A Committee has been formed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development to examine the factual position with regard to production, size composition, marketing especially export of prawn during 1985-86 and the trend in the recent past.

(c) At present there are 87 deep sea fishing vessels of 20 M. length and above owned and operated by the commercial

sector. In addition 42 numbers of foreign chartered fishing vessels are also operating in Indian Exclusive Economic Zone.

(d) Deep sea fishing is unlikely to deplete shrimp resources in Indian Waters.

Dairy policy

466. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have considered the desirability of having a dairy policy to solve unemployment among the lower levels of our society in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b) The accepted policy of the Government is to foster and promote dairy development on cooperative lines as far as possible. With this in view, a National Dairy Project, known as Operation Flood has been launched in the country. The Project is based on a three tier cooperative structure i.e. (1) Village Level Dairy Cooperative Societies of milk producers at the grass-root level, providing direct and indirect employment in the rural areas; (2) Unions of these village cooperatives at the district level; and (3) Federations of these Unions at the State/apex level. The Unions/Federations also provide employment opportunities.

Supply of newsprint

467. SHRI MURLI DEORA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the numerous problems being faced by publishers of newspapers regarding regularity and quality in the procurement of newsprint;

(b) whether Government are considering de-canalisation of imports of newsprint to eliminate the bottlenecks and

other problems being complained of by newspaper publishers all over the country;

(c) if so, whether any steps are being taken to solve the difficulties of the newspaper publishers;

(d) the amount being spent on import of newsprint and bamboo chips; and

(e) whether Government are aware that with the possibility of making good quality newsprint from bagasse, our dependence on imports and bamboo chips can be reduced considerably ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) and (c) Complaints in regard to regularity and quality of newsprint received from newspaper establishments from time to time are duly looked into. Steps have been taken to streamline the procedures in the Office of the Registrar of Newspapers for India. Better liaison and coordination is being maintained with the indigenous mills producing newsprint and the STC. Also, the STC has introduced computer to help process such cases expeditiously.

(b) There is no proposal to decanalise imports of newsprint, at present.

(d) During 1985-86, the amount spent on imports of newsprint was of the order of Rs. 123.17 crores approximately. The data about amount spent on import of bamboo chips is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(e) It is the policy of the Government to encourage the use of bagasse for the manufacture of paper and newsprint. Paper containing not less than 75 per cent by weight of pulp made from bagasse is exempted from excise duty. Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Limited have already achieved break-through by producing newsprint using 85 per cent bagasse pulp.

Setting up of T.V. relay centre at Songarh in Gujarat

468. SHRI C. B. GAMIT : Will the

Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a T.V. relay centre in the tribal area of Songarh in Gujarat State during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the time by which the T.V. relay Centre is likely to be set up in Songarh; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) No, Sir,

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Proposals for setting up composite super mini steel plants from private sector units

469. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of proposals for setting up of composite super mini-steel plants from several private sector units have been pending for some time; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) and (b) A number of proposals for setting up of composite mini-steel plants were received and they have been *prima facie* rejected as they are not covered under the existing guidelines of industrial licensing. Some representations have been received against such rejections and these are under consideration.

Setting up of fertilizer plants during Seventh Plan

470. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are any proposals