

Proposal for Allowing Entry of Private Sector into Dredging

1550. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for allowing the entry of private sector into dredging ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) There is no ban on the private sector in participating in dredging works in the country. They are already allowed to do so.

(b) Question does not arise.

Demand for Passengers Shipping Service Between Haldia and Madras

1551. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a demand from the public for a passenger shipping service between Haldia and Madras via Ports of Paradip and Gopalpur in Orissa ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) Director General of Shipping has reported that there is no such demand from the public.

(b) Does not arise.

Construction of Hostels for Women

1552. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : SHRI D. L. BAITHA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the present hostel accommodation for women in Delhi and in other metropolitan cities ;

(b) whether the present accommodation is not sufficient and several women seeking jobs in those cities are forced to turn away for lack of an adequate and safe place to stay ;

(c) whether there is any proposal to construct more hostels for Women in all four metropolitan cities ; and

(d) if so, the details of hostels likely to be constructed during the Seventh Five Year Plan period in each city ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) Government of India has sanctioned grant-in-aid to voluntary organisations for the construction of 44 hostels for 3623 working women in the metropolitan cities as under :—

Sl. No.	City	Number of hostels sanctioned	Beneficiaries Working Women
1.	Bombay	12	1,098
2.	Calcutta	4	197
3.	Delhi	13	1,537
4.	Madras	15	791

(b) No survey has been conducted to ascertain the number of working women seeking hostel accommodation in the metropolitan cities. However, no specific case has been reported to the Government of India forcing of women being forced to turn away for lack of adequate hostel facilities.

(c) and (d) It is proposed to expand the programme during the Seventh Five Year Plan substantially. However, State/ Union-Territory-wise allocations are not made under the Programme. Government of India will consider further proposals on receipt of applications from voluntary organisations in the metropolitan cities through the concerned State Government/ Union Territory Administration,