

As shrimp exports account for about 83% of our export earnings of marine products, any decline in shrimp catches is likely to adversely affect the export growth of marine products. While the Government has not received any specific representation in this regard, a watch is being kept on the export trend.

(c) Steps taken by Government in this regard include promotion of prawn farming for augmenting production of cultured shrimps, establishment of prawn hatcheriss and prawn seed banks and measures for exploitation of deep sea fishing resources.

(d) Yes, Sir. MPEDA is regularly consulted.

Export of Marine Products

1667. SHRI K. PRADHANIP : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India's marine products exports have stagnated in terms of quantity over the last two years ;

(b) whether the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) is overlooking this aspect of falling shrimp catches in its assessment ;

(c) whether it is a fact that MPEDA has come out against allotting permits to foreign boats to fish in our waters ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) Exports of marine products during 1985-86 were 83,651 tonnes. During the first nine months of 1986-87, the exports registered nearly of 10% increase as compared to corresponding period last year from 57,113 MT in April-Dec., 1985 to 62,745 MT in April-Dec., 1986. (Source : MPEDA)

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. Foreign vessels can operate only under the approved charter policy of the Government.

Spy Network Busted in Jammu and Kashmir

1668. SHRI K. PRADHANI :
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :
SHRI R.M. BHOYE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether security agencies in Jammu and Kashmir recently busted Pak espionage networks ;

(b) if so, the total number of Pak spies arrested so far and the details of documents seized from them ; and

(c) the steps being taken to check espionage activities in border areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Action under the Terrorist Prevention Act in North East Region

1669. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government are using powers under the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act to curb the growing insurgency in North-Eastern States particularly in Tripura ; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by Government since the enactment of the Act ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) The State Governments in the North Eastern Region were advised by the Union Government to use the provisions of the