

Assistance to Deep Sea Marine Products Industry

3573. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme to assist the deep sea marine products industry;

(b) whether exports of marine products originating from deep-sea fisheries vessels have been declining or stagnating in the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure better utilisation of the fishing fleet to increase exports of marine products, in particular shrimp?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) Schemes formulated by the Government to assist the deep sea marine products industry include augmentation of deep sea fishing fleet through a judicious mix of indigenous, imported and chartered fishing vessels, provision of subsidy on the cost of indigenously constructed deep sea fishing vessels, provision of loan facility on soft terms by Shipping Credit and Investment Company of India Ltd., systematic and intensive survey of fishery resources in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone, assistance for construction of fishing harbours at major and minor ports and training of deep sea fishing operatives for manning the fishing vessels.

(b) Separate Export record for deep sea fishing vessels are not being maintained by the MPEDA.

(c) The present policy in this regard while encouraging diversified fishing discourages acquisition of vessels for shrimp fishing.

Stoppage of Konark Express at Khallikot Station

3574. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the great demand Government propose to provide a stoppage of Konark Express at Khallikot station (Orissa); and

(b) if so, when and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Presently not found feasible.

World Bank Loan to ICICI

3575. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has agreed to finance the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India's (ICICI) proposal for funding the technology development in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of total credit obtained by the ICICI on its earlier ventures during the last three years and utilisation of funds made by the Corporation;

(d) whether the ICICI has made out any definite programme regarding repayment of loans; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Negotia-