

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-

tion were held with the World Bank between 11 and 17 July, 1989 for a loan of \$ 200 million to the Government of India for an Industrial Technology Development Project to be implemented through the ICICI and IDBI. However, the loan is yet to be approved by the Board of Directors of the Bank.

(c) to (e). ICICI has obtained a Grant of \$ 30 million from US Aid during 1986 and 1987 for the following Technology oriented programmes:-

(i) \$ 10 million in 1986 for the Programme for the Advancement of Commercial Technology (PACT) to support Indo-US joint R&D ventures designed to accelerate the pace and quality of technology innovation in products and processes in Indian industry. The utilisation as on 30.6.89 is \$ 1.8 million.

(ii) \$ 20 million in 1987 for Programme for Acceleration of Commercial Energy Research (PACER) to support technological innovation in Indian energy sector through financial assistance to consortia of manufacturers, research institutions and end-users. The utilisation as on 30.6.89 is \$ 0.3 million.

Repayment of loan component of external assistance received by ICICI for funding Technology Development will be as per schedule agreed to between GOI and ICICI.

Implementation of Financial Assistance Schemes by Banks

3576. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government and Reserve Bank of India are aware of failure of nationalised banks to fully implement various programmes requiring financial assistance as per the concept of the designated services approach;

(b) if so, whether one of the main reasons is the failure of nationalised banks to allot a manageable group of villages to rural branches by opening new branches for which licences have been granted keeping in view requirements of the scheme during 1988-89 and 1989-90; and

(c) if so, whether Reserve Bank of India would take immediate steps to ensure early opening of these branches and ensure that the defaulter banks are not given new licences for any urban branches/extension counters till they clear their backlog in the opening of rural branches for which licences are pending with them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that as lendings under Service Area Approach have become operational from 1.4.1989, it is too early to assess whether the banks have fully implemented the various programmes in the Villages allotted to them. The Block Level Bankers' Committee/District Level Consultative Committee would periodically review the performance of banks and take such action as is deemed necessary. Besides, the controlling offices of banks would also be constantly reviewing the performance of their branches.

(c) RBI has reported that the matter of branch expansion in the rural and semi-urban areas is begin continuously monitored by the Task Forces set up at the Regional Offices of RBI. Banks have not been able to open branches at certain allotted centres due to lack of basic infra-structural facilities. RBI has written to the Chief Secretaries of all State Governments/Union Territories for providing basic infrastructural facilities in order to open the branches at the allotted centres expeditiously. The allotment of centres in urban areas which has been