

(a) the number of major and medium irrigation projects taken up since 1951 till date;

(b) how many out of them have been completed so far; and

(c) the reasons for not completing the others ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b). 246 major and 1059 medium irrigation projects were taken up till the end of 6th Plan. Of these 65 Major and 626 Medium Projects were completed. In addition, the Planning Commission has made financial allocation for 17 Major and 66 Medium new projects in the 7th Five year Plan.

(c) The reasons for non-completion of remaining projects include overall constraint of resources, difficulties in land acquisition and non-availability of scarce construction material.

Closure of Shipping Companies

2055. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Government aided Shipping Companies have been closed down;

(b) if so, the number of such Companies which closed down during 1985-86; and

(c) the reasons for their closure ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) to (c). Only one company viz. Deccan Shipping Ltd. stopped carrying on Shipping activities during 1985-86 as its only ship sank off Madras Port in November 1985. Three more companies viz. Nilhat Shipping Ltd., Sujwala Shipping Company Ltd., and R.A.J. Lines Ltd., ceased to function because SDFC decided to foreclose mortgages in their cases for recovery of

its dues. One more company viz, Panchsheel Shipping Company Ltd., ceased to function under orders of Calcutta High Court in liquidation proceedings moved by company's creditors.

Computerisation of Railway Reservations

2056. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the computerisation of railway reservations at New Delhi railway station has proved useful during the recent summer rush,

(b) if so, whether this would be extended to other urban stations also; and

(c) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Computerisation of railway reservation for trains leaving New Delhi and Hazrat Nizamuddin stations has proved very useful during the recent summer rush. Reservation work at Old Delhi Station has not yet been computerised.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. Projects for computerising passenger reservations in the cities of Bombay and Calcutta are currently under progress.

Over Charging of Passengers by Auto-Rickshaw Drivers

2057. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether passengers hiring auto-rickshaws between 11 p. m and 5 a. m. are required to pay 25 per cent extra charges;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that in a majority of the cases auto-rickshaws drivers at the Inter-State Bus Depot, Delhi are having fare charts showing extra charges leviable between 10 p. m. and 5 a. m. thereby overcharging the passengers;