

(b) if so the reasons thereof and the remedial measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): (a) The flat fare system has not yielded the expected results.

(b) The increase in revenue on account of introduction of two-stage fare system has not been adequate to make up the financial loss. Remedial measures to reduce the losses, so as to make the Organisation financially viable, are now under consideration of the DTC management.

Vacant Top Posts in D.T.C.

1422. **SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:** Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the top posts in DTC are lying vacant for a long time; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): (a) Yes, Sir. The post of Additional General Manager has been vacant since 1.9.76 and that of General Manager since 11.2.77.

(b) Shri Abdul Bari, Additional General Manager, was appointed as General Manager of DTC on a temporary basis for six months from 1.9.76. Action for filling up the post of Additional General Manager was deferred until 28.2.77 because Shri Bari could have been reverted to his substantive post anytime thereafter. The question whether the post of Additional General Manager may be filled up or kept vacant, as a measure of economy, is now under DTC's consideration.

The post of General Manager, which fell vacant on 11.2.77, following Shri

Bari's proceeding on leave and later reverting to his present organisation, has also not been filled up because it has been decided to combine the posts of Chairman and General Manager. This combined post is expected to be filled soon.

Shri B. B. Mahajan, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Shipping and Transport has been holding additional charge of the post of Chairman, DTC, since 2.4.77 on which date the incumbent of the post proceeded on leave, before reverting to his cadre post.

Atrocities on Harijans by Landlords

1423. **SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN:**

SHRI S. G. MURUGAIYAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the recent atrocities perpetrated on Harijans, agricultural workers, backward classes and weaker section by landlords in Bihar and Andhra;

(b) whether such Harijan repression took place in other States during March-April this year, if so, the particulars thereof;

(c) the steps taken against those who are responsible for these; and

(d) the steps taken to prevent the recurrence of these in future?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHARAN SINGH): (a) to (c). Government have seen newspaper reports in this regard. Information whether any such incidents have occurred is being collected from all State Governments.

(d) It has been impressed upon State Governments that all cases involving any form of violence against harijans should be investigated promptly and efficiently and that persons suspected

to have committed any such offence should be brought to book according to law. It has also been impressed upon the State Governments, that when such incidents come to their notice effective and adequate measures should be taken to instill a sense of security amongst the affected persons and strengthen preventive arrangements.

Pension to Participants of Moplah Rebellion

1424. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision regarding the grant of pension to the freedom fighters who took part in the famous Moplah rebellion in Kerala;

(b) if not, whether an early decision will be taken; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHARAN SINGH):

(a) to (c). The matter is still under consideration.

Passenger Steamer for Konkan Coastal Traffic

1425. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether purchase of one more passenger steamer for Konkan coastal traffic is under the active consideration of Government;

(b) whether Maharashtra and Goa Governments are pressing for this additional passenger steamer; and

(c) whether Government have taken any decision on the report of Saggi Committee on Coastal traffic on the Western Coast of India

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) Presumably, the reference is to a Committee appointed by the Govt. of Maharashtra under the chairmanship of Shri J. G. Saggi, Managing Director, Mogul Line Limited to go into the question of acquiring additional two small low draughted vessels for operation on the Konkan coast. The Committee submitted its report to the Government of Maharashtra on 18th March, 1975. No communication has been received from the Government of Maharashtra in respect of this report. The question of the Government of India taking a decision on the report therefore does not arise.

Nhava Sheva harbour project in Bombay

1426. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether NHAVA SHEVA Harbour Project in Bombay is making slow progress due to lack of finance from the Centre;

(b) when the project will be completed and what provision have been made for each stage; and

(c) how much finance will be provided by the public finance Corporations?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): (a) No investment decision has been taken so far on the matter.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Compulsory Research Cess on Industry

1427. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the then Minister of Planning announced in the Fifth Lok