

8. The posts of the Chief Engineer and Dy. Conservator are lying vacant from 1-1-1979 and 1-3-1979 respectively. The post of Manager is not vacant. A Selection Committee has been appointed to make recommendations for selection of the candidates for the posts.

9. As a result of the various measures taken by the Government and the Bombay Port authorities, the waiting period for general cargo vessels has come down from 65 days to around one month. The number of ships waiting for berth has reduced from 58 days (on 17-3-1979) to 26 days (on 30-4-1979).

10. The man days lost from April, 1978 to March, 1979 were about 84,400 as a result of late report of half-an hour by the shore labour. The Port has been working to over 90 per cent of its capacity and there is hardly any cushion left to absorb problems of labour bottlenecks of transportation system, bunching of ships, weather constraints, etc.

#### Contracts to Foreign Firms for Building Ports

9407. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the names and number of the foreign firms, which have been awarded contracts during the last two years for building ports in the country; and

(b) the names of the sites where the work is in progress?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) and (b). During the last two years there have been three cases of award of contracts for port works to firms that were either of foreign origin or were Indian firms which executed the work with foreign collaboration.

In New Mangalore Port a contract was awarded for rock dredging to an Indian firm having foreign collaboration with M/s. Ingenior F. Selmer, a Norwegian Firm and the work is in progress.

In the second case, the work was awarded to a Yugoslav Firm, M/s. Ivan Milutinovic-MIM for residual dredging work in Mormugao Port which has since been completed.

The third case relates to the laying of a Submarine Pipeline in the Bombay Harbour. The work was entrusted to O.N.G.C. who got it executed through M/s Oceanic Contractors Inc., U.S.A. This work has been completed.

कराचोंक वाणिज्य दूतावास में भारत श्राने के लिए बीसा के लिए चीड़

9408. श्री हुकूम खन्व कलवाय : क्या बिदेश मनी यह बताने की कृपा करेगे कि

(क) क्या भारत श्राने के लिये पासपोर्ट/बीसा प्राप्त करने के इच्छुक हजारे व्यक्तित्व प्रतिदिन कराची स्थित भारतीय वाणिज्य दूतावास में भारी संख्या में आ रहे हैं,

(ख) क्या भारतीय वाणिज्य दूतावास ने बड़े हुए काम को निपटाने के लिये अतिरिक्त कर्मचारियों को देने का अनुरोध किया है, और

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो इस संबंध में सरकार क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है ?

बिदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री समरेन्द्र कुष्ठू) (क) और (ख) जी हाँ।

(ग) सरकार इस समस्या की ओर ने पूरी तरह अवगत है। भारत के कराची स्थित प्रधान को सलावास में 20 अनिश्चित क्लकों को प्रस्थायी तौर पर फौरन भेज दिया गया है और 8 अन्य क्लकों को स्थायी आधार पर वहा भेजा जा रहा है। उम्मीद की जाती है कि इससे समस्या पर काफी हद तक काबू पाया जा सकेगा और पाकिस्तान के प्रखबारी ने इसकी सराहना भी की है।

#### Disputes between workmen and Management of Central Coal Fields Ltd. Orissa

9409. SHRI PABITRA MOHAN PRADHAN: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India, Ministry of Labour in their letter Nos. 124011(2)/77-D, IV(B) dated 23rd March, 1978 and 124012(2)/77-