

(d) The report will be considered by the competent authority on receipt.

भारत लाइन्स लिमिटेड को ऋण

८८०. श्री भागवत झा आजाद : क्या परिवहन मंत्री ७ दिसम्बर, १९५४ को दिये गये तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ८२३ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बतान की कृपा करेंगे कि सरकार द्वारा दिये गये ऋणों के लिये भारत लाइन्स लिमिटेड ने क्या प्रतिभूति (सिक्यूरिटी) दी है ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): The quantum of loans advanced by the Government of India to the Bharat Lines Ltd. ranges from 66-2/3 per cent. to 75 per cent. of the cost of the vessels purchased. As security for these loans the Company has mortgaged these vessels to the Government of India after bringing them on to the Indian Registry. Thus, Government have taken a security which ranges between 33-1/3 per cent. to 50 per cent. over and above the amount of loan advanced, which is considered to be adequate. Further, the vessels have been insured by the Company against all risks and are maintained in approved classification.

MESQUITE TREES

881. **Shri Deogam:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the uses of Mesquite plants, flowers and trees;

(b) the places where these plants are found in abundance; and

(c) the sources for obtaining the seeds for propagation?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The branches and the main stem of the Mesquite plant can be used as posts in fencing. The flowers secrete honey and are visited by honey bees. The long sugary pods are nutritious and are considered a good source of fodder for cattle and other livestock. The bark yields tannin and gum.

(b) The Mesquite is found in abundance on the Delhi Ridge and in some parts of Rajasthan. It is a native of Mexico and was introduced in India about the years 1910-12.

(c) The seeds can be obtained from mature fruits which could be easily collected in July. For large requirements some quantity of seeds could be imported from countries like Mexico and Australia, where the plant is cultivated.