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40	Oceanographic Research Vessel .	50.00	For financing the procurement of an Oceanographic Research Vessel from West Germany.
41	Neyveli Lignite Corporation (Expansion) (Second Mint Cut and Associated Power Station) (Tamil Nadu).	176.00	For Financing the foreign exchange cost of import of mining and power equipments and service.

Apart from the afore indicated capital aid projects, the Federal Republic of Germany have also been assisting India by extending technical assistance (grant) in the shape of equipments, commodities, experts services and training of Indians abroad. Some of the major beneficiary projects are:—

1. Oceanographic Research Vessel (equipments and Training)
2. Institute of Toolroom Training, Lucknow (U.P.)
3. Central Toolroom, Ludhiana (Punjab)
4. Drought Prone Area Programme in Bankura, West Bengal.
5. Demonstration Plant SASMIRA (Silk and Art Silk Mills Research Association) Bombay (Maharashtra)
6. Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (Tamil Nadu)
7. Cryogenic Engineering, I.I.T., Kharagpur (West Bengal)
8. Erosion Prevention on Dhauladhar Range (H.P.)
9. Hard Coal Technology, CMPDI, Ranchi (Bihar)
10. Nilgiris Agricultural Extension Project (Tamil Nadu)
11. Agricultural Extension Service Projects, Mandi and Kangra (H.P.)
12. Fertilizer Educational Project in West Bengal.

Non-practising allowance to Professionals

8535. SHRI N. SELVARAJU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) is there any inclination on the part of Government of India to sanction non-practising allowance or restricted consultancy allowance to the professionals such as doctors, engineers, technologists; and

(b) if so, how much amount is proposed for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAISINGH S'SODIA): (a) and (b). The Medical Officers in the Central Health Service and outside that Service have been allowed Non-practising allowance in the revised scales of pay at the prescribed rates on the basis of recommendations of Third Pay Commission contained in paras 37 and 60 of Chapter 16 of their report.

The Third Pay Commission had also considered the question of grant of non-practising allowance to Engineer in para 27(vi) of Chapter 14 of their report and they had recommended as under:

“Non-practising Allowance: This has been demanded on the ground that medicine and engineering are both professions and if a non-practising allowance is paid to the doctors there is no reason why it should be denied to the engineers. We feel that the grant of the non-practising allowance to the doctors has to be treated sui generis and it

would not be correct to extend this to any other category. Historically doctors have long enjoyed this privilege presumably because doctors were scarce and their services were required during emergencies and sudden illness when it would be anti-social to deny patient, medical attention. When this privilege was withdrawn a quid pro quo in the form of a non-practising allowance was given. These considerations do not apply to engineers or to most professional categories.

In view of the above recommendations of Third Pay Commission, the Government have not found any justification to grant non-practising allowance to engineers or other professionals.

Target for Export of Rice

8536. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any idea about the estimated quantity of international trade in rice and quantity exported by various rice-producing countries and India's share therein; if so, what;

(b) what is the target fixed for export of rice during the Sixth Plan period;

(c) whether there is any regional preference in the exportable variety of this commodity; if so, what;

(d) the measures taken to develop the quality in demand by using proper inputs and control; and

(e) the mechanism devised to ensure strict quality control over exportable commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN):

(a) The World Rice Trade in 1980 was estimated to be 11.5 million tonnes.

(b) The target for 1984-85 is 3 million tonnes.

(c) No information is available.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Agricultural commodities are subject to the pre-shipment quality control either by the Agricultural Marketing Advisor or the Export Inspection Agency.

Setting up of public sector projects in West Bengal

8537. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the last three years, the West Bengal Government had been pressing the Centre to set up some major public sector projects in that State;

(b) if so, the particulars of the projects suggested to be set up in West Bengal; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto and at what stage the matter stands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA):

(a) to (c). Information regarding proposals submitted by the Government of West Bengal to the Central Government Ministries concerned with setting-up of public Enterprises is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the house.

Export of salt to Nepal

8538. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an agreement has been signed by India and Nepal for the export of salt;

(b) if so, the total quantity of salt proposed to be exported to Nepal in 1981-82; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE