Written Answers

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20.	Tripura	102.0	47.5
21.	Uttar Pradesh	78.0	44.0
22.	West Bengal	98.3*	NA
23.	A and N Islands	140.9	101.9
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	93.8	33.1
25.	Chandigarh	102.4*	89.5*
26.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	93,8	38.0
27.	Delhi	106.7*	90.4*
28.	Goa, Daman and Diu	110.6*	89.5*
29.	Lakshadweep	162.0	105.0
30.	Mizoram	103.5	93.5
31.	Pondicherry	118.0	108.0
	(States and UTs) Total	93.3*	50.7*

Source: State Plan Documents

Financial Assistance for Minor Ports

1492. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANS-PORT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether development of minor ports is essential for the progress of coastal shipping;
- (b) whether Government are aware of the difficulties faced by the minor ports in securing dredging facilities to become viable; and
- (c) if so, whether Government propose to assist the State Governments and the Dredging Corporation of India to resolve these difficulties by allocation of necessary financial assistance to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANS-PORT (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The responsibility for development of minor ports vests with the respective maritime States. As per the decision of the National Development Council, funds for development of minor ports are to be covered in the State Plans and consequently central assistance has been dis-continued from 1978 onwards. The State Governments provide funds for the development of minor ports in their Annual Plans.

Dredging assistance for the minor ports. if and when specifically requested by them, is provided by the Dredging Corporation of India, on commercial basis, consistent with their other commitments.

^{*}Estimated on the basis of 1971 population estimates.