Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a scheme to subsidise motor craft, barges and launches for use in the canals and rivers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any disbursement of subsidy has been made to any person or company in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard during 1998-99, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The Loan Interest Subsidy Scheme for subsidising the bank/institutional interest for the loans taken for acquisition of vessels to be plied on inland waterways was introduced in June, 1980 and remained in operation till 31.3.1998. The scheme has been revised in 1999. Inter-alia, it envisages payment of loan interest differential subsidy beyond 5.5% of bank/institutional loan interest, subject to availability of funds on acquisition of new dumb barges, mechanized vessels, high powered tugs, new or second hand amphibian crafts, indigenous/imported second hand vessels with functional life of at least 10 years etc. for operation on declared National Waterways subject to laid down conditions in the scheme. It is also available for the purpose of mechanization of existing crafts.

(c) & (d) Under the Loan Interest Subsidy Scheme of 1980 payment of loan interest subsidy of Rs.5,04,227/- during 1995-1996 was made in relation to a claim received from Andhra Pradesh State Financial Corporation in respect of loan granted to M/s Viya Marine Services for acquisition of vessel Vasishta Godavari.

Details of payment made state-wise during 1998-1999 are as under:

(1) Goa Rs.27,01,007.00

(2) Kerala Rs.63,74,822.00

Total Rs.90,75,829.00