

- (i) Regular bilateral discussions at official and ministerial level and exchange of trade and industry delegations;
- (ii) Participation in trade fairs, exhibitions, seminars, training programmes, and buyer-seller meets;
- (iii) Execution of Trade Promotion Programmes in sectors such as textiles, engineering, electronic goods, leather of footwear, gems and jewellery, fisheries, computer software, etc. with financial and technical assistance from European Community and Government of FRG, UK and Switzerland; and
- (iv) Promotion of foreign direct investment in India by private enterprises in the form of joint ventures through the European Community International Investment Partner Scheme for which Agreements have recently been signed.

Sinking of Ship in MID Sea at Karaikal Coast, Pondicherry

3729. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have information regarding a speed boat which reportedly came and picked up the captain of the ship seized in mid-sea off Karaikal coast in Pondicherry;

(b) if so, the details and the factual position regarding the incident;

(c) whether a smaller boat which was also apprehended sank into the sea; and

(d) if so, the circumstances leading to its sinking?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d). The Indian Navy apprehended two foreign vessels on the night of 7/8th November, 1991, after hot pursuit which started 10.5 nautical miles off the coast of Karaikal. While the vessels were being toward to the mainland, the smaller one sank due to excessive ingress of water from a leak, not detected at the time of apprehension. The other vessel was found to be carrying certain items bound for Jaffna in Sri Lanka, apparently for use by the LTTE for preparing explosives. The documents seized from the vessel indicated a definite linkage with the LTTE.

Government are not aware of the Captain of any of the captured vessels having been picked up by a speed boat.

[*Translation*]

Radars for Central Ordnance Depot, Agra

3730. SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether three radars procured for the Central Ordnance depot at Agra are working efficiently;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (e). No radars have been procured for the central Ordnance

Depot at Agra. However, some radars, received from M/s. Bharat Electronics Ltd., a Ministry of Defence Public Sector Undertaking, for use by the Indian Army could not be issued to the users due to delayed supply of certain additional accessories required by them. Action to procure the needed accessories has been taken to ensure deliveries as per the revised delivery schedule.

Setting up of Special Benches of Delhi High Court

3731. SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA: Will the Minister of LOW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 7117 on September, 13, 1991 and state:

(a) whether special benches have been constituted for disposal of old cases relating to service matters pending in the Delhi High Court; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons there for?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRIRANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): The position, as reported by the Registry of the High Court is as follows:

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no special provision under their Rules for giving over-riding priority to service matters against other categories of cases. However, in the immediate past, exclusively oldest cases were listed before the Division Benches and Single Benches in

the third week of each month. The matter regarding constitution of regular benches for hearing only oldest cases is receiving attention of the Delhi High Court.

Transactions by Public Sector Undertakings with Foreign Banks

3732. SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the existing policy regarding transactions by sector undertakings with foreign banks;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to restrict the public sector undertakings to bank with the scheduled commercial banks only; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). The existing policy is under review.

Revision of Wages of Officers of Port Trusts and Dock Workers Boards

3733. SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision on the recommendations of the Committee constituted for wage revision of the grade I and II officers of the Port Trusts and Dock Workers Boards; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.