GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:937 ANSWERED ON:28.07.2003 CAPSIZING OF INDONESIAN CARGO-SHIP JAYASHREE BANERJEE;SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI;SUNDER LAL TIWARI

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that an Indonesian Cargo-Ship capsized near Haldia port in West Bengal in May, 2003;

(b) if so, the quantity of soda ash and diesel therein;

(c) the amount of damage caused to environment on account of the capsizing of the ship;

(d) whether the Government have demanded compensation from the port owners against the damages caused to the environment and other losses; and

(e) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JU DEV)

(a) to (c) Yes sir; As per information provided by the Kolkatta Port Trust through the administrative Ministry, the Indonesian cargo ship `MV Segitega Biru`, which sank within the Kolkatta /Haldia Port limit on 18th May,2003, was carrying 5327 tons of soda ash and about 140 tons of fuel. A minor oil pollution noticed on 20th May 2003 by the Kolkatta Port Trust was neutralized byspraying Oil Spill Dispersant (OSD).

(d) & (e) Necessary Notices have been issued to the Owner, Master, Insurer and the Agents by the Kolkatta Port Trust, under Section 14 of the Indian Ports Act. They have also been asked to furnish a Bank Guarantee for a sum of Rs. 50 crores or US \$ 10 millions.