

(c) As per the available information, there are 57 cold storages, 2 fish meal plants and 16 storages for dry fish in southern Gujarat and Saurashtra region. Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) extends financial assistance by way of giving subsidies for the establishment of cold storages, upgradation of deficient cold storages, and for the procurement of generator sets, plate freezers, individual quick freezing (IQF) machines, insulated fish boxes and automatic flake/chip/tube ice making machines etc. Necessary technical guidance for the establishment of cold storages and procurement of machinery and equipment etc, is also provided by MPEDA. Assistance from MPEDA under the above schemes can be availed in any part of the country including Southern Gujarat and Saurashtra.

#### Additional Burdens of DEBT

3525. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India has submitted its report for the year ended on March, 1997;

(b) if so, the observations made by him;

(c) whether Government have been trapped in the additional burden of debt;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the measures proposed to be taken by the Government to pay back this debt?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Total liability of the Union Government, which consisted of the internal borrowings, external borrowings, and balances in the Public Account utilised as resource by the Government, increased by 60 per cent over the last five year period from Rs. 480467 crore in 1992-93 to Rs. 770513 crore in 1996-97, at the current rate of exchange for the external debt.

(c) and (d) The increase in total liability was due to successive fiscal deficits being incurred for meeting the gap between the total expenditure and the non-debt receipts. However, the total liability, as a percentage of GDP, has come down from 68 per cent in 1992-93 to 60 per cent in 1996-97.

(e) The maturing liability is rolled over through fresh borrowings.

[English]

#### Chargesheet Against AGM, GIC

3526. SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Vigilance Commission has over-ruled the GIC and New India Assurance Co. Ltd. and have asked them to issue a "major penalty" chargesheet to them AGM for his alleged involvement in cases of fraud and corruption highlighted by the Employees Association;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for undermining the seriousness of the charges by the New India Assurance Co. Ltd. and GIC;

(c) whether the chargesheet was issued to the accused Officer on the last day of his retirement from service for the corruption cases coming to light many years back;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the officers responsible for the delayed action and showing favour to the corrupt officials have been identified; and

(e) if so, the action taken against them as well as against the other corrupt officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) Certain complaints against the then Assistant General Manager of New India Assurance Company Limited (NIAC) (a subsidiary of the General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) were investigated by the NIAC. They found that no vigilance angle was involved in the matter. The GIC recommended to the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) issuance of a minor penalty against the officer. The CVC advised initiation of major penalty proceedings against him. The GIC felt that the documents were inadequate to sustain such charges against the officer and deputed a Manager to explain the factual position to CVC who reiterated their earlier advice.

(b) The GIC has reported that the seriousness of charges was not undermined either by NIAC or by GIC.

(c) Yes, Sir. A charge Sheet was issued to the officer on the date of his retirement from service.

(d) There was no delay in taking action. On receipt of advice from CVC on 28.1.1998 for initiation of major penalty proceedings the charge sheet was served on the officer on 30.1.98.

(e) Does not arise.

#### Security SCAM

3527. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :  
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :