

farming and setting up prawn hatcheries for supply of seeds and;

- (vi) Participation in Specialised Commodity Fairs abroad, publicity programmes abroad and organising Buyer-Seller Meets.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) These Schemes were initiated with the objective of being catalyst for encouraging private entrepreneurship in the marine export sector through provision of basic infrastructural facilities. They were discontinued after this limited purpose was achieved. These Schemes cannot be appropriately assessed in terms of profit or loss.

#### **Proposal for Financial Restructuring of Scindia Steam Navigation Company**

10496. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for the financial restructuring of the Scindia Steam Navigation Company Limited;

(b) if so, its broad features; and

(c) Government's stake in the Company?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b). The Rehabilitation Proposal submitted by the company is under consideration of Shipping Credit & Investment Company of India Limited (SCICI).

(c) The total outstanding exposure of the Government of India through loans and guarantees amounts to Rs. 178 crores approximately as on March 31, 1990.

#### **Export of Silico-Manganese to Japan**

10497. SHRI S. B. THORAT: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware about the complaints received regarding bad quality of materials of silico-manganese supplied by Maharashtra Electros melt Limited to Japan from Visakhapatnam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against the persons found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Maharashtra Electros melt Limited (MEL) had exported silico manganese in the last quarter of 1988-89 and 2nd quarter of 1989-90 to Malaysia and Japan. The 2nd shipment was as per contract between M/s. Cotia International, consignee Toyo Denka Kogyo Co. Ltd., Japan and MEL. Although the material in Chemical composition was within the specifications, M/S. COTIA complained that it contained oversize. The Indian agency M/S. SGS India Pvt. Ltd. who has been appointed under an agreement between M/S. Cotia International and MEL had cleared the material based on their sampling tests at Vizag.

As it was considered that it would not be in the commercial interest of MEL to have quality complaint from Japanese buyers, a team of two Senior Officers from MEL visited Japan and after inspection of the material a MOU was signed for compensation of expenses to Japanese party for screening the material and realising some of the oversize material.

This payment to the Japanese party was unavoidable as otherwise MEL would