

Governments for setting up of Women Development Corporations to generate activities among women such as identification of women entrepreneurs, preparation of a shelf of viable projects, facilitating the availability of credit, promotion of marketing through tie-up arrangements strengthening of women's cooperatives and arranging training of beneficiaries in concerned trades, project formulation and financial management. Central Government provides 49% of the share capital. In Uttar Pradesh, a Women Development Corporation had been set up in 1988.

#### **Foreign Ship for Antarctica Expedition**

6840. SHRIMORESHWARSAVE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foreign ship for the Antarctica expedition is being chartered for a longer duration than is necessary;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether launching of this expedition from Cochin would result in substantial savings in total expenditure, if so, the facts thereof; and

(d) whether all the leading scientists volunteer for this expedition; and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In view of the logistic and infrastructural facilities available at Goa including specialized services of the National Institute of Oceanography, there will be no saving in the total expenditure if the expeditions are launched from Cochin.

(d) Scientists from leading academic and national institutions volunteer for the Antarctic Expeditions and those, who are suited to meet the objectives of the scientific programmes, are nominated. The final selection is made on the recommendations of a committee of eminent scientists, which are in turn based on a thorough appraisal of all the proposed programmes. Once the scientists are selected, they are deputed for the purpose of the expedition under the prescribed conditions.

#### **Cases Referred to CBI by Karnataka**

6841. SHRI H.C. SRIKANTIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases referred by Karnataka to Central Bureau of Investigation during the last three years;

(b) the number of cases in which charge-sheets have been filed;

(c) the number of cases closed; and

(d) the number of cases still under investigation?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) 3 cases.

(b) In one case.

(c) Nil.

(d) One case.

#### **Harassment of Tamil Nadu Fishermen by Sri Lankan Naval Force**

6842. SHRI D. PANDIAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received reports of harassment of Tamil Nadu fishermen by the Sri Lankan Naval force and also