

(b) whether the candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are given priority at the time of posting in foreign countries; and

(c) the percentage thereof in the service at present?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) The Central Trade Service was created with the following objectives:—

- (i) To make available to the Import and Export Trade Control Organisation a regularly constituted and organised service which would help the morale of the officers and enable them to function with greater confidence and initiative.
 - (ii) To remedy the defects in the then existing situation and to make possible to plan recruitment, training and deployment of personnel in a better way so as to meet the various growing needs of the organisation.
 - (iii) To gradually encompass within its fold other cognate activities where professionalisation in the matters of trade and commerce is called for.
- (b) and (c): No Sir, as the officers belonging to the Central Trade Service are not being deployed in our foreign missions at present.

[*English*]

SITE For Ship Breaking Yard in Konkan Region

1452. **PROF. RAM GANESH KAPSE:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Managing Director, Development Corporation of Konkan Limited, Bombay have identified site at Navapur near Tarapur in Ucheli

creek for development of ship breaking yard in Konkan region;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the concerned agency (viz. M/s. Steel Shark Ship-breakers, Bombay) in the matter so far?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b) Development Corporation of Konkan Ltd., Bombay, (DCKL) who are the nodal agency appointed by the State Government for development and allotment of plots for ship-breaking in the state, have identified a site at Navapur near Tarapur in Thane District for development of a ship-breaking yard and approached the State Government for securing necessary approvals in this regard.

Indo-French Joint Business Meet

1453. **SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indo-French Joint Business Council met for the Eighth time in Paris in June, 1990:

(b) if so, the main points discussed and the decisions taken in the meeting; and

(c) to what extent the trade between two countries will be improved?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) to (c) A delegation of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) had visited Paris on 7th and 8th June 1990 for the 8th meeting of the Indo-French Joint Business Council. FICCI has reported that discussions were held generally to promote Indian exports to EEC specifically with reference to the French market. The discussion had also focussed on the investment policy of the Government of India, scope for joint ventures involving transfer of French techno-