

MR. SPEAKER : Yes ; you can lay it on the Table.

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE : I beg to lay on the Table of the House a statement on the arrangements for Deep Sea Fishing including proposed arrangements for collaboration with the Soviet Union.

Statement

Recently, hon Members have been showing keen interest in the development of deep sea fishing. I thought I should keep the House informed regarding the present position of deep sea fishing and the steps Government of India are taking and propose to take for the development of the same.

We have not yet made an effective start in the commercial exploitation of offshore and deep sea fish resources. The Fourth Plan envisages introduction of 300 off-shore and deep sea fishing vessels. Government is providing the infrastructure mainly in the shape of harbours, training of personnel and resource surveys. The approach has been to utilize indigenous capacity for construction of fishing vessels to the extent feasible and to encourage the utilization of indigenously constructed vessels. A fairly liberal subsidy has been offered for the purpose. Government also placed orders on ship building firms in the country in 1968-69 for forty off-shore and deep sea fishing vessels. Twenty six of the vessels have so far been delivered. Most of these vessels are being used by Government for resource surveys. The fishing industry has been slow in utilizing indigenous capacity for construction of off-shore and deep sea fishing vessels because of various difficulties.

While expertise in construction of fishing vessels can and is being further developed, Government had authorized in 1968-69 the import of 30 off shore and deep sea fishing vessels to serve as a stimulus to development of off-shore and deep sea fishing. It is proposed to permit further imports subject to full utilization of indigenous capacity. Government also recognizes the need for some induction of foreign expertise for the purpose of developing off-shore and deep sea fishing capability. In this context, the feasibility of entering into a suitable agreement with the USSR has been under consideration. It is proposed to enter into an

agreement with the USSR for co-operation in the field of marine and inland fisheries. The USSR has advanced technology in both these fields. In the marine sector, it is envisaged that under the proposed agreement, the requirement of trawlers in excess of indigenous capacity can be met to a substantial extent. The advanced technology of the USSR in the field of deep sea fishing will be helpful in the development of the deep sea fishing industry in this country. Additional requirements of trawlers can be met by import from other sources.

The off-shore and deep sea fish resources offer immense scope not only for helping to bridge the protein gap in the dietary needs of the country but also for augmenting earnings of foreign exchange through export of selected high-priced varieties of fish. It has been estimated that the resources of the continental shelf alone, which we are only able to partly exploit at present, can support a production of three to four times the present quantum of fish landings. The export trade in shrimp and lobster which already contributes about Rs. 40 crores in foreign exchange can also be very substantially increased. The availability of Soviet know-how and equipment under the proposed agreement would help to greatly accelerate the expansion of the off-shore and deep sea fishing industry and help the country to tap the abundant marine resources which can contribute so substantially towards both the dietary needs of the people and the foreign exchange earnings of the country.

12.20 hrs.

STATEMENT RE DERAILMENT OF
MYSORE-HUBLI PASSENGER TRAIN

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD.
SHAFI QURESHI) : With a deep sense of
sorrow and regret I have to inform the
House about a serious accident which took
place on the Mysore Division of Southern
Railway in the early hours of this morning.
At about 02-48 hours while train No. 223
Up Mysore-Hubli Passenger was running
between Chakariappalli and Penukonda
station on the Bangalore-Dharmavaram metre
gauge section of the Mysore Division of
Southern Railway the train engine along
with five bogies next to it derailed. Of the
five bogies, four capsized. According to the
information received so far, 9 persons have

[Shri Mohd. Shafi Qureshi]

been killed and 35 injured as a result of this accident.

Immediately on receipt of the information of the accident, Medical Relief Vans from Guntaki and Bangalore along with the doctors were rushed to the site of the accident.

The General Manager, Southern Railway, accompanied by the Heads of Departments has also proceeded by air to the site of the accident.

Minister of Railways, Shri Hanumanthaiya, who was at Bangalore, has personally visited the site of the accident.

Ex-gratia payment is being arranged to the next of kin of those who died and to the injured persons.

The injured passengers have been admitted in the hospitals at Anantapur and Hindupur and are being looked after.

The cause of the accident is under investigation.

CONSTITUTION (TWENTY-NINTH AMENDMENT) BILL*

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted

SHRI H R. GOKHALE : I introduce the Bill.

12 23 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1972-73—*contd.*

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS—*contd.*

MR. SPEAKER : Now, we resume discussion on the Demands of the Ministry of External Affairs.

SHRI SYED AHMED AGA (Baramulla) : May I make a submission, Sir? There are many speakers who have not been able to participate in the discussion on the Demands of the Ministry of External Affairs. If we could only forgo the lunch hour, three or four of us could be accommodated.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY (Nizamabad) : Does he want to forgo the lunch or the lunch-hour?

SHRI SYED AHMED AGA : Lunch-hour.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY (Rajmandgaon) : If Mr. Agha is given the opportunity, the matter will be over.

MR. SPEAKER : In spite of that, your name is not here in the list. So, now we carry on and we will stick to the schedule.

We have already extended the House for half an hour and still you are asking for dispensing with the lunch-hour. We must stick to the time already announced unless there are very exceptional circumstances and we have a consensus.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Gwalior) : The Congress party can accommodate Mr Agha.

MR. SPEAKER : I was thinking in that manner, but when I saw the list, Mr. Agha's name is not there.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : The number of speakers from the Opposition and the Congress are equal in this debate and the time taken is also equal although we are entitled two thirds of the time. Our Members feel disappointed because they do not get the due share of the time. They require two-thirds of the total time fixed for a particular Demand.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Sant Bux Singh.

SHRI SANT BUX SINGH (Fatehpur) : I start to speak to-day with being in disagreement with a person for whom I have tremendous respect and affection. That is, Prof. Hiren Mukerjee.

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II, section 2, dated 25.4.72.

†Moved with the recommendation of the President.