

11. Office of the Controller of Defence Accounts.

12. National Project Construction Corporation.

13. Bharat Aluminium Company.

14. Central Coalfields, Ranchi.

15. State Bank of India.

16. UCO Bank.

17. Vijaya Bank.

18. Bank of Baroda.

[*Translation*]

Investigation of Cases by C.B.I. Against Officers

595. SHRIHARISHPAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1856 on 20 August, 1990 and state:

(a) whether the requisite information regarding investigation of cases by CBI against officers has since been collected; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRIKAMAL MORARKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Number of cases of Government and Public Sector Undertaking officers investigated by the CBI during the last three years, i.e. 1987, 1988 and 1989 is as under:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of cases investigated</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>
1987	790
1988	692
1989	678

The number of cases in which either prosecution was initiated or departmental action was recommended after investigation is as under:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of cases</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>
1987	704
1988	523
1989	326

[*English*]

Marine Collaborations

596. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to collaborate with USSR in marine research;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of collaborations with other countries if any, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRIKAMAL MORARKA): (a) Yes, Sir. India does have collaborative programmes with USSR in marine research.

(b) These are:

- (i) Studies of air-sea exchange processes and their influence on monsoon dynamics.
- (ii) Variations in space-time patterns of equatorial currents in the Indian Ocean.
- (iii) Geology and Metallogeny of Indian Ocean ridges and back-arc basins.
- (iv) Analysis of ecosystems and fundamental research in the equatorial Indian ocean.
- (v) Investigation of the nature of crust in the deformation zone of the Indian Ocean.

(c) Collaborative research programmes also exist with Germany, and USA in the following areas of marine sciences.

- (i) Indo-German Programme on quaternary upwelling and monsoon related processes in Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal.
- (ii) Indo-US programmes on Bioactive substances from the Indian Ocean; Corrosion of marine metals and alloys; and studies of the environmental parameters that control macrofouling of surfaces in Indian waters and of anti-fouling properties of selected active substances from marine organisms of the Indian coast.

Abolition of Freight Equalisation Scheme

597. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI:
SHRI SAIFUDDIN
CHOUDHURY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether various State Governments have demanded the abolition of freight equalisation scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the matter has since been referred to the National Development Council;

(d) if so, the views of the Council have been received; and

(e) when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRIKAMAL MORARKA): (a) and (b). While the States in the Eastern Region have been demanding early withdrawal of the Freight Equalisation Scheme, the States away from the Eastern Region have demanded indefinite continuation of the scheme.

(c) In view of the conflicting interests of the different States the Government have decided to refer the matter to the National Development Council.

(d) So far, the NDC has not considered the issue.

(e) It is not possible to indicate a definite time frame for a final decision.