

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) In the month of May and June 1985 two factories engaged in grinding of spices were inspected and a total of 14 samples were lifted. 12 samples have been found to be not conforming to the standards.

(b) and (c) The cases of these 12 samples declared not conforming to the standards laid down under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 are under pre-prosecution investigations. After investigation is completed action will be taken as per provisions of P.F.A. Act and Rules made thereunder.

[English]

Financial Assistance to Shipping Companies from Shipping Development Fund Committee

*52. **SHRI S.M. GURADDI :** Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the functioning of the Shipping Development Fund Committee (SDFC) has come to a stand still;

(b) whether the financial assistance provided to the various shipping companies during the last two years has resulted in discrimination and mushroom growth of private companies without the necessary skills and reserves; and

(c) if so; whether Government propose to issue proper guidelines to streamline the financial assistance to shipping companies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z R. ANSARI) : (a) No, sir.

(b) No, sir. Financial assistance to private shipping companies is given only after a thorough examination of the proposal of the company by Executive Director, Shipping Development Fund Committee and Director General of Shipping, which is then discussed in the meeting of Shipping Development Fund Committee. The recommendations of Shipping Development Fund Committee are further examined in the Ministry of Shipping and Transport and

Ministry of Finance, before final sanction is issued. The appraisal made by Shipping Development Fund Committee and Director General of Shipping covers the aspects of managerial skill and financial resources available in the shipping company. There has been no discrimination in the matter of providing financial assistance to the shipping companies as financial assistance is provided on the basis of needs of the company after an analysis of the cash-flow position of the company by Shipping Development Fund Committee. The fact whether a company should be allowed to undertake shipping business or not, is also looked into by Shipping Development Fund Committee before according permission.

(c) The financial assistance to be given to shipping companies is regulated by provisions of Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 and Shipping Development Fund Committee Rules. A committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Shipping and Transport) has recently (June 1985) reviewed the arrangements for assistance to shipping companies. No decision has been taken by Government on these recommendations.

Advance Courses in Electronic Science by Universities

*53. **SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA :**
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that most of the universities in the country have failed to start advance courses in electronic science inspite of Government's directive to the University Grants Commission;

(d) the reasons for University Grants Commission's failure to implement such courses in the Universities; and

(c) the action contemplated by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K C. PANT) : (a) The University Grants Commission had, in May 1984, advised 3 universities to start a Master's level course in Electronics Science and 7 universities to start a one-year post-B.Sc. diploma course in the same subjects. One

of these universities has started both the courses in 1984-85.

(b) and (c) The courses have to be introduced by the universities concerned after making the necessary preparation. The question of any failure on the part of the UGC does not arise.

Energy Conservation

*54. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) in the context of shortage of energy, whether Government are considering ways and means to conserve energy and to step up its availability for the Core Sector ;

(b) whether Government are carrying out a study to identify areas/Industries/Offices for saving energy;

(c) if so, the details of the scheme; and

(d) how much energy is likely to be conserved/made available ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Yes, Sir. Conservation of energy will increase availability of energy to the Core and other Sectors.

(b) A number of government agencies including Standing Group on Conservation of Electrical Energy under Central Electricity Authority, Petroleum Conservation Research Association, Inter-Ministerial Working Group on Utilization and Conservation of Energy under the Ministry of Industry and Advisory Board on Energy, have examined the potential for energy saving in the various sectors.

(c) The schemes aim at developing/improving operating practices and equipments in the various energy intensive sectors, including industrial, transport and agricultural sectors.

(d) According to present indications the potential for conserving energy in the industrial sector is approximately 25 per cent, in transport sector about 20 per cent

and in agricultural sector approximately 30 per cent of the existing levels of consumption.

Recruitment of DTC Drivers and Conductors

*55. SHRI R.P. DAS : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any plan to change its policy in the matter of recruitment of DTC Drivers and Conductors;

(b) if so, by what time; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z.R. ANSARY) : (a) to (c) Government has not received any proposal in this regard from the Delhi Transport Corporation.

Development of Inland Water Transport in Kerala during Seventh Plan

*56. SHRI K. KUNJAMBU : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme for the development of Inland Water Transport in Kerala during Seventh Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) and (b) A scheme for development of Neendakara-Cheriyazheekal Waterway was sanctioned in January, 1972 at an estimated cost of Rs 48.00 lakhs under Centrally Sponsored Scheme. With regard to New Schemes, no decision has so far been taken as the 7th Five-Year Plan is yet to be finalised.

Financial Assistance, Loss Incurred and Performance of D. T. C.

*57. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA : SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the financial assistance provided to the Delhi Transport Corporation by Government since 1981-82, year-wise;