

- iii) Project on Standards, Testing and Quality Control; and
- iv) Project on Upgradation of Foundry Techniques.

The total assistance agreed to be provide by EEC for these projects is 1,83,000 ECUs.

(c) The above projects are scheduled to be completed by 1989.

### **Shrimp Fishing in Andhra Pradesh**

\*317. SHRI T. BALA GOUD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Marine Products Exports Development Authority (MPEDA) is monitoring the shrimp fishing by deep sea trawlers based at Visakhapatnam:

(b) the projected target of catches for the current year;

(c) whether catches made so far are low as compared to earlier years:

(d) whether the deep sea fishing boat owners are facing difficulties; and

(e) if so, whether Government propose to extend financial assistance to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. ASMUNSI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No target for catches by deep sea fishing operations has been fixed by the MPEDA.

(c) No monitoring has been done by the MPEDA in aspect of catches by deep sea fishing vessels. It has, however, been reported that catches in 1987-88 were low but

during the early period of 1988-89, they are reported to be better .

(d) The main difficulties being faced by the deep sea fishing boat owners relate to finance, high cost of diesel oil and lack of suitable facilities in certain fishing harbours.

(e) Steps taken by the Government in this regard include persuading the concerned financial institutions for adopting liberal terms for financing deep sea fishing projects, efforts for reduction of excise duty on diesel oil supplied to boat owners and providing accommodation facilities for deep sea fishing vessels in some of the major harbours.

### **Loans Granted by Public Financial Institutions to NTC**

\*319. DR. V. VENKATESH:  
SHRI ATISH CHANDRA  
SINHA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether public financial institutions have together extended various kinds of loans to the National Textile Corporation (NTC) and its subsidiary companies during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the NTC has failed to repay the debts as per schedule;

(d) if so, the facts thereof; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken for realisation of debts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI

EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) and Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) have reported that during the last three years (July-June) 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 they had disbursed Rs. 8.64 crores for modernisation of some textile units under National Textile Corporation (NTC).

(c) to (e). The assisted units have not repaid the overdue instalments of principal. The IDBI and IFCI, after a review, agreed to revise the repayment schedules of the existing term loans subject to certain conditions. NTC has recently requested the financial institutions for a further review in the matter.

#### **Ex- Gratia Payment to Widows of Railway Employees**

\*320. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate publicity has been given to the recent decision of Government to grant ex-gratia payment of Rs 150/- per month to widows and dependent children of deceased Railway employees covered under the Contributory Provident Fund Scheme (CPFS) and retired before January, 1986 and to the procedure to be followed for submission of their applications; and

(b) the number of such applications received upto 31 October, 1988 in Northern Railway Headquarters in Delhi and Divisional Railway Manager's Office of Allahabad Division and the action taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) yes, Sir.

(b) Out of a total number of 182 applica-

tions received, payment has been authorised in 52 cases. 38 applications have been sent back to the applicants for rectification of the discrepancies. Verification of the remaining applications has not been completed.

#### **Discontinuation of Local Trains on Western Suburban of Bombay**

\*321. SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to discontinue the 12 bogies of local train on Western suburban of Bombay in spite of heavy demands of commuters of Vasai, Bhayander and Virar;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which it will be restored for the convenience of commuters?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir. The 12 coach experimental EMU train is still running on Western Railway.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

#### **Pension to LIC Employees from Erstwhile Travancore-Cochin State Government Insurance Department**

\*325. SHRI A. CHARLES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees drafted to the service of the Life Insurance Corporation of India from the former Travancore-Cochin State Government Insurance Department on nationalisation of insurance in 1956 are eligible for pension;

(b) if so, whether these employees are