

(c) The increase is attributable to the normal growth of traffic.

Assistance to primary producers of shrimp

*388. SHRI DAULATSINHJI:
JADEJA:

SHRI P. J. KURIEN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken to assist the primary producers of shrimp which forms the main items of marine exports; and

(b) the incentives offered to the primary producers, in view of the depressed price and rising fuel costs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) and (b). The average unit value realisation on exports of shrimp has gone up to Rs. 45.60 per kg. during 1981 as compared to Rs. 38.40 during 1980. A scheme providing rebate on Central Excise on high speed diesel oil for fishing vessels which are not less than 13.7 meters in length and fitted with engines of not less than 150 HP is already in existence. Besides, the Government of Maharashtra and the Government of Goa also provide some relief to mechanised boat owners. A scheme has also been evolved by the Government to encourage scientific farming of shrimp. In addition, insulated fish boxes are being distributed to owners of mechanised boats on subsidised rates. The Government is also assisting the State Governments in establishing fish landing platforms.

Remittance by Indians working in oil producing countries

389. SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) are Government aware that the Indian workers abroad especially

in oil producing countries are a potential source of foreign exchange-earnings;

(b) what percentage of their wages they are allowed to send according to the regulations of these countries; what percentage is fixed in their contracts and how much of this percentage is spent in remittance;

(c) have Government taken any steps to ensure that this remittance is at cheaper cost and it is not obstructed by any agencies; and

(d) have any complaints and suggestions been received in this regard and if so, the action taken?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE
(SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) Percentage of remittable earnings of Indian workers depends upon the rules and regulations of the country concerned and even within permissible limits, is bound to vary from one worker to another.

(c) and (d). Yes Sir. RBI have been suggesting to Indian project exporters to make consolidated remittances on behalf of their Indian workers for disbursements by receiving bank(s) in India. According to RBI such consolidated remittances reduce to a certain extent, the remittance charges as well as the time lag. RBI have not however, received any complaints or suggestions in this regard.

Closure of textile mills in Coimbatore

*390. SHRI ERA MOHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of textile mills that have remained closed in Coimbatore;

(b) the reasons therefor and the number of workers who have lost their livelihood; and

(c) the steps taken so far to reopen these textile mills so that the workers get back their employment?