

Requirement and Import of Deep Sea Fishing Vessels

*526. SHRI D. K. PANDA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of trawlers required for deep sea fishing during the Fourth Plan ;
(b) number of trawlers now in operation ;
and

(c) whether Government have any proposal to import deep sea fishing vessels from foreign countries and if so, the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P SHINDE) : (a) The Fourth Plan envisages introduction of 300 vessels for off-shore and deep sea fishing

(b) Fifty eight off-shore and deep sea fishing vessels are now in operation.

(c) Import of fishing vessels by the industry is being processed under a current scheme limited to 30 vessels. It is proposed to permit additional imports to the extent to which the demand cannot be met from indigenous sources.

SHRI D. K. PANDA : It is seen from the statement that 300 vessels are going to be introduced out of which 58 are already in operation. Of the balance of 242 vessels, 30 are going to be imported. For the remaining 212, is there any plan for indigenous production and, if so, will it be in the public sector or private sector ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : First priority would be given to encouraging indigenous production. Actually, production is taking place in both the private and public sector. There are two consortia. One in the east and another in the West. In the west it is mainly in the public sector that this work is going on. In the east there is a public sector undertaking, namely, Garden Reech workshop, which is taking the initiative in this. So, it is both in the public and private sector. Secondly, we anticipate that the demand would be more as we make improvements. The first priority for import would be with the Soviet Union because they have

a lot of experience in this deep sea fishing and manufacture of trawlers. Once an agreement is arrived at, then naturally the first preference would be for purchase of trawlers from the Soviet Union because the terms would be favourable. We have to make payments in rupee and foreign exchange can be saved. If later on, we find that the Soviet Union is unable to supply adequate numbers, then we can explore the possibility of importing from elsewhere.

SHRI D. K. PANDA : The reply only says that the Fourth Plan envisages the introduction of 300 vessels. My question was specific, namely, what was the total requirement. So, was any assessment of the actual requirement all over the country made and does that include the supply of vessels to the Fishermen's Cooperative Society at Gopalpur in Orissa ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : We have a rough estimate and at the moment, according to our rough estimate, there is demand to the tune of 150 trawlers. Naturally, public sector organisations like the Kerala Fishing Corporation, other State Corporations and cooperatives will receive preference

श्री रामकंवर : प्रश्न सं० 521 के उत्तर में मंत्री महोदय ने इन्कार किया है, लेकिन 3 अर्बल को केरल के मुख्य मंत्री श्री अच्युत मेनन का अखबारों में स्टेटमेंट छपा है, जिसमें उन्होंने बतलाया है कि भारत सरकार ने इस बारे में बातचीत की है और पूरी स्कीम बन गई है। रुम की मदद से गहरे समुद्र में मछली पकड़ने का काम शीघ्र ही शुरू होगा, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस मामले में क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : इसकी बातचीत चल रही है।

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : The Minister has replied to my question No. 521 saying that no agreement is there. Of course, no agreement is there, but he could very well have said that negotiations were going on. He did not say that. He should have taken the House into confidence. If there had not been a question like No. 521, it would be distorting facts.

MR. SPEAKER : That was a specific question and he said, "No". Now you can negotiate the supplementaries.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : But he could very well have said that no agreement was reached but the Government was negotiating with Soviet Russia.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : I think, the hon. Member is right.

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE : The question was very specific whether agreement had been reached. The emphasis was on the word "reached".. (Interruption)

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Can the Minister take refuge behind technicalities ?

SHRI R. S. PANDEY : On a point of order, Sir. The first question was by Shri Sharma and in reply he said, "No". Since he said, "No", you did not allow the Member to put a supplementary. In reply to this question he says, "Negotiations are going on." In reply to that question also he could have said, "Agreement has not been reached but negotiations are going on." That would have been more precise than the answer given by Shri Shinde. My complaint is that the Chair becomes very rigid sometimes.

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not talk like that. I am not going to tolerate this.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY : I am sorry for this. But...(Interruption)

MR. SPEAKER : I do not want it to be repeated.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY : Every Member is entitled to put a supplementary question and have more information.

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not try to take too much liberty.

श्री शशि भूषण : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री महोदय ने एक प्रश्न के उत्तर में कहा—नो में जवाब दिया। एक उत्तर में कहा कि नेगोशियेशन हो रही है। एक में कहा—सोवियत यूनियन को डीप-सी-फिशिंग का ज्यादा एक्सपीरियन्स

नहीं है। यदि ऐसा है तो फिर नेगोशियेशन की क्या जरूरत है ? सही क्या है ?

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE : I said, the Soviet Union had a lot of experience in this.

MR. SPEAKER : The other day also it happened like this. In the case of the Minister of Tourism the same thing happened. Negotiations were going on but the Minister did not make a reference to them. The same thing has happened today to his question also. But when the Minister categorically says, "No", there is no harm if he also says, "However, some negotiations are going on."

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE : When the hon. Member was putting his question I was seeking your permission to allow me to explain. But you were attending to papers.

MR. SPEAKER : It causes embarrassment to me. You have always been very precise and correct. In your case, when you say so, I take a very strong view. If it were Mr. Khadiolkar, my approach would have been a different one.

SHRI PILOO MODY : What would have been your view if it were Mr. Raj Bahadur ? (Interruption)

MR. SPEAKER : My attitude would have been entirely different in his case. But not in Mr. Shinde's case because I know he is very precise and correct. Today, he slipped a little. I am not prejudiced at all. I have to use a little bit of my own tact sometimes.

SHRI C. T. DHANDAPANI : In the statement, it has been stated that 30 trawlers are to be imported from foreign countries. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government have made any public announcement for inviting the applications from the public and, if so, how many applications have been received from the public, how many licences have been issued and who are the persons to whom the licences have been issued.

MR. SPEAKER : Which applications ?

SHRI C. T. DHANDAPANI : The application for trawlers.

MR. SPEAKER : You give separate notice for that.

SHRI C. T. DHANDAPANI : This is connected with it.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : The public announcement was made. Accordingly, the Government of India has sanctioned the proposal for import of 30 trawlers. Now, after the first announcement was made, the various parties ; including public sector organisations, have indicated their requirement of 150 trawlers in addition. The exact number is not clear at the moment.

SHRI C. T. DHANDAPANI : How many persons have been given the licences and who are the persons ?

MR. SPEAKER : That needs a separate notice. I do not allow it.

SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT : There are some trawlers which are already in operation. I should like to know in which coasts they are in operation and how many in each coast.

MR. SPEAKER : After these are acquired, only then that will follow,

SHRI SHANKER RAO SAVANT : There are some trawlers which are actually in operation. I want to know in which coasts they are in operation

MR. SPEAKER : This is a question about the requirement of trawlers, not about trawlers already in operation. You give a separate notice for that, as to how many trawlers there are and where they are operated.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : I would like to know from the hon. Minister, when they have not been able to import these vessels, whether any immediate alternative arrangements can be made for Kerala fishermen who are facing serious trouble for the last three years.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : The difficulty is not because of lack of import of these vessels. The difficulty is because during the last two years, there were some short-

falls in catch due to some periodical fluctuations and sufficient quantity of fish was not being found. The catch was a little less. I have explained the Government of India's policy as to how we propose to meet the requirement in future.

SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT : Sir, part (b) of the question is : the number of trawlers now in operation. It is in connection with that I am asking for the number of trawlers now in operation and in which coasts they are in operation.

MR. SPEAKER : Let him collect the information. They will be in so many places. Let him give a separate notice. This question is only about the number of vessels required (*Interruption*)

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the hon. Minister tell us how many such trawlers are operating in the east coast, including Calcutta, adjoining Roychowk fishing Harbour, and how many do they propose to introduce in the Plan period ?

MR. SPEAKER : Has he got the information ? He can circulate it later on

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : Information port-wise is not available. (*Interruption*)

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I did not say 'port wise'. There are two coasts—east coast and west coast. The east coast has been neglected throughout. That is why I have been wanting to know.

MR. SPEAKER : Has he got the information coast-wise ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : No. Sir. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Next Question.

Allocation of Funds for Housing Scheme in Delhi/New Delhi by Housing and Urban Development Corporation

*527. SHRI S. C. SAMANTA : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) out of the thirty-five crore loan sanctioned by the Housing and Urban Develop-