a detailed project report. Unless we have a detailed project report including drawings and other things, we cannot commence the work.

सत-ग्रल-ग्ररब जल मार्ग मे फैसे हुए भारतीय जहाज

- *42. श्री केशवराव पारधी : व्या नौबहन श्रीर परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :
- (क) क्या ईरान ग्रौर इराक की सीमाग्रों को विभक्त करने वाले सत-ग्रल-ग्ररब जलमार्ग में तीन भारतीय जहाज फंसे हुए हैं ;
- (ख) यदि हां, तो जलमार्ग से इन जहाजों को मुक्त कराते के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या प्रयास किये जा रहे हैं: ग्रांर
- (ग) उन जहाजों में लदे हुए सामान का **ब्यौ**रा क्या है ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH):
(a) Four Indian ships are stranded in Shatt-Al-Arab, one at Khorramshahr and the other three at Basrah.

- (b) Government are in touch with the authorities in Iran and Iraq for the safety and release of these ships. A large number of ships including ours are stranded in Shatt-Al-Arab and their movement out of the estuary is presently difficult.
- (c) These ships have already unloaded their cargo which they were carrying for Khorramshahr and Basrah. The three ships at Basrah had not loaded any cargo for the return voyage, whereas the ship at Khorramshahr had loaded 237 empty gas cylinders.

श्री केशवराव पारधी: प्रध्यक्ष महोदय, जैसा कि अभी बताया गया है ईरान भीर इराक के अधिकारियों से सरकार सम्पर्क बनाए हुए है, तो अब तक क्या कार्यवाही हुई है, क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बतायेंगे ।

श्री बूटा सिंह: जैसा मैंने कहा कि सत-ग्रल-ग्रदब जलमार्ग में बहुत से जहाज हके हुए हैं जिनमें दूसरे मुल्कों के जहाज भी है। उनमें चार जहाज इंडिया के है जो कि हके हए हैं।

The members of the crew are quite safe. The crew of one of the ships had come back to India. The crew of other ships are there; the masters of the ship have been given full authority to take a decision on the spot in consultation with the Consul-general.

SHRI A. T. PATIL: With your permission, may I know from the hon. Minister one thing: One ship is reported sunk and the crew and the captain had to swim to Iraqi coast from which they had now come to India. Is it a fact? What steps have government taken?

SHRI BUTA SINGH: Yes, Sir. On 9th October 1980, one ship named Vijayavatar at Khorramshahr was hit by artillery fired and the crew abandoned the ship under instructions of the master. All the crew including the master reached Basra safely and they have since been repatriated to India except for one cadet, named Ambu. The Indian Embassy at Tehran had been alerted about the missing cadet.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: It has been stated in the answer that "instructions have been issued for the safety and release"...

What do you mean by 'release'?

MR. SPEAKER: It is regarding ships.

SHRI BUTA SINGH: I did not use the word 'release'. Even in the answer there is no word 'release'.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: It says, "safety and release".

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SHRI BUTA SINGH: Sorry, it is about the sailing of ships. Because many ships are stranded in that area. It is difficult to get out.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: You actually used it.

India's Mediation in Iran-Iraq War

*43. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Iraq-Iran have approached India for mediation in their conflict; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA (a) and (b). Shortly after the Iran-Iraq conflict began, special envoys from the two countries visited India to project their respective view points. While they did not ask for an exclusively Indian mediation effort, there were indications that they would be willing to consider any that India could make to resolve the problem. Special envoys of the Prime Minister visited Tehran and Baghdad understand the to further Iranian and Iraqi positions. Meanwhile, the Coordination Bureau of the ment of the Non-aligned Countries in New York had initiated efforts to bring about peace. India took an active part in these efforts as well as in the informal deliberations in Belgrade to consider how best a peaceful resolution of the dispute could be found.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Sir, it is unfortunate but true that the Iran-Iraq war shows signs of continuing, in spite of the best efforts to bring it to an end. Now the response to the most recent efforts of the noaligned countries including India to

bring to an end the war has been disappointing. India has to play a great role. That is also an active role due to the mounting presence of the U.S. in the Indian Ocean and the fact that the U.S. is trying to explore the bases in the Indian ocean. In view of all these facts, if the conflict is prolonged, is there any danger of the war extending right up to the do step of India?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Sir, I made a detailed statement on this subject day-before-yesterday which covered all the points raised by the hon. Member.

MR SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Poojary?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Sir, because of this Iran-Iraq war may I know from the Minister, how many Indians were killed and injured and what is the nature of the protection which has been given by those countries to those Indian?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: There is another question coming on this.

श्रीमूल चन्द डागाः ग्रभी श्रापने जो उत्तर दिया था मेरा प्रश्त है

"shortly after the Iran-Iraq conflict began, special envoys from the two countries visited India."

जब ब्राप गुटिनरपेक्ष नीति को मानते हैं . तो ब्रापने उनका इंतजार क्यों किया र स्राप कह रहे हैं "shortly after their visit"

हम लोग अपनी तरफ से शांति की स्थापना करना चाहते हैं : ग्राप बाह रहे हैं

"shortly after the Iran-Iraq conflict began, special envoys came to India and then you started suomotu—?"