

**Pensionary benefits to C.W.C.
Employees**

3603. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANI-
GRAHI : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION
AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the work-
charged employees of three Divisions of
Central Water Commission functioning in
Orissa are deprived of getting their pensionary
benefits ;

(b) has the pensionary benefits been
given to the families of the deceased tempo-
rary/work charged employees who have died
premature deaths during their service
periods ;

(b) if so, the number of such families
who are getting such "family pension
benefits ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION
AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARA-
NAND) : (a) to (d) The information is
being collected and will be laid on the
Table of the House.

**Opening of Hydrological Observatory
at Bhubaneswar**

3604. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANI-
GRAHI : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION
AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of
the public demand for opening a hydrologi-
cal observation and flood forecasting circle
of Central Water Commission under the
Ministry of Irrigation and Power at
Bhubaneswar (Orissa) ; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have
taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION
AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARA-
NAND) : (a) and (b) There have been
requests to consider opening of a new
'hydrological observations and flood fore-
casting Circle' at Bhubaneswar. In view of
the need to economise expenditure, it may
not be possible to open a new Circle at
Bhubaneswar in the near future.

**Procurement of Two Passenger Vessels
from International Market for
Andaman and Nicobar Islands**

3605. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :
Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND
TRANSPORT be pleased to state : *

(a) whether the Andaman and Nicobar
Administration has requested Government
for procurement of two passenger vessels
from the international market on urgent
basis ;

(b) if so, the details of the action taken
by Government thereon ;

(c) whether it is a fact that T.S.S.
Nancowry and M.V. Andamans both have
expired their life and are unfit for passenger
services ;

(d) if so, what is the proposal of
Government for replacement of these two
vessels ; and

(e) the details of the expenditure
incurred on repairs of M.V. Andamans and
T.S.S. Nancowry during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANS-
PORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) A
suggestion to this effect was received from
the A & N Administration while giving their
comments on the draft interim report of
the Working Group set up by the Govern-
ment to work out the shipping requirements
of these islands during the Seventh Plan
period.

(b) On the basis of the need for 3 new
ships identified by the Working Group,
Shipping Corporation of India has already
initiated action to invite tenders.

(c) M.V. Andamans is 28 years old and
T.S.S. Nancowry is 37 years old. Through
the normal life of the ships has expired,
they continue to ply as they have been
certified fit by Government Surveyors in
respect of maintenace and condition.
Both the ships possess passenger ship safety
certificates.

(d) The need for 3 new ships identified
by the Working Group as indicated in (b)