

The Indian companies are permitted to charter foreign fishing vessels to carry out fishing operations in Exclusive Economic Zone of India for export purposes and with a view to acquire the latest technology in the quickest possible time. Exempting Indian fishing vessels from the liability to income-tax may not help in transfer of deep-sea fishing technology from foreign parties to Indians.

Declaration of free trade zones at vizag

3753. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO :

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN :

DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the places which are declared as Free Trade Zones;

(b) whether it is a fact that existing Free Trade Zones cover the West Coast and also the Southern and Northern parts of East Coast while the important middle part of East coast is left out; and

(c) the decision taken in regard to set up Free Trade Zone at Vizag in Visakhapatnam as requested by Government of Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Export Processing Zones have been set up at Kandla (Gujarat), Santacruz (Bombay), Cochin, Madras, Falta (West Bengal), and Nodia (U.P.)

(b) There are two multi-product export processing zones each on West Coast and East Coast. Establishment of additional zones has been restricted by constraint of resources.

(c) Performance and progress of the four new zones at Madras, Cochin Falta and Noida is presently being watched, before the establishment of any other new zones is considered.

Exploitation of mines

3754. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether while exploiting various mines of coal, gold or other metals, Government take into consideration the factor as to how long a particular mine can continue to be exploited;

(b) whether with the use of latest technology, the total deposits in a mine can be estimated fairly well;

(c) if so, whether Government have made any study of mines in the country which are likely to be exhausted in the next 25 years or so; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, state-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) If the deposits are well explored, total deposits in a mine can be estimated fairly well by use of modern technology except in the mines of mica and asbestos where the mineral occurs in an erratic manner.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

Lead bank consultative committees in districts

3755. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a district lead bank consultative committee in each district;

(b) if so, whether there are elected representatives members in such committees; and

(c) if not, whether his Ministry propose to have elected representatives or their nominees as members of such Committees ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) District level Consultative Committees set up under the 'Lead Bank Scheme' are primarily functional committees to bring the bank representatives and those of the state agencies for sorting out the problems of Co-ordination. At the District Level

Review Committees, however, which are expected to meet to review the implementation of Annual Action Plans of District Credit Plans twice a year, Reserve Bank have advised the banks to associate non-officials including elected representatives.

Commercial crops destroyed in Idukki district

3756. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that large areas of commercial crops like cardamom, tea, ginger, pepper, etc. in Idukki district have been destroyed in the recent floods;

(b) if so the extent of damage suffered on this account;

(c) whether an special financial assistance is being given to rehabilitate these crops; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Substantial damage destruction of agricultural and plantation crops which include cardamom, pepper etc. has been reported. On receipt of Memorandum from the Government of Kerala seeking central assistance for flood affected areas (including plantation crops like cardamom) a Central Study team was recently deputed to make an 'on the spot study'. The report of the Team has been received and is under examination by the Ministry of Agriculture. It is not possible at this stage to indicate the quantum of special assistance to be given to rehabilitate these crops.

Abolishing of post of non official directors in Nationalised Banks

3757. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a decision has been taken to abolish the posts of non-official directors in the nationalised banks; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANA-RDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Import of natural rubber by S.T.C.

3758. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the quantity of natural rubber imported by the State Trading Corporation during the past three years with year wise break-up; and

(b) the import price as well as the price at which the imported, rubber is supplied to the user-industries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Year-wise imports of natural rubber by S.T.C. were as follows :

Year	Quantity (Metric Tonnes)
1982-83	31,659
1983-84	32,175
1984-85	32,408

(b) Imports are made by S.T.C. at prevailing international market prices. The current Exgo-down price of imported rubber (RSS-III Grade) at Madras payable by the users is Rs. 16,500.00 per metric tonne and Rs 16,000.00 P. met for SMR-20 Grade.

[Translation]

Utilisation of installed capacity by NTC Mills

3759. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the mills of National Textile Corporation are not fully utilising their installed capacity;