

(b) if so, whether the Government have reviewed the financial structure of Kandla Port in this connection;

(c) if so, the factual outcome thereof; and

(d) the full details of allocations made to the Port during the current financial year and the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c): Do not arise.

(d) During Annual Plan 1998-99, the approved outlay for Kandla Port Trust is Rs. 65.50 crores, out of which Rs. 50 lakhs is External Aid, and the balance will be met from Internal Resources of the Port. For Kandla Port, an outlay of Rs. 360 crores has been allocated in Ninth Five Year Plan, out of which Rs. 30 crores is expected to come as External Aid and balance from Internal Resources of the port.

**Committees Constituted to review the Functioning of SEBs**

4718. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :  
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :  
SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD  
YADAV (JAHANABAD) :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted any committee to review the functioning of the State Electricity Boards;

(b) whether this committee has submitted its report; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) The Government constituted a Committee for Review of Commercial Accounting System in State Electricity Boards in May, 1993.

(b) and (c): The Committee submitted its report in July, 1996 which was circulated to all the SEBs for taking necessary action. The important recommendations of the Committee are in the attached statement.

**Statement**

**Important Recommendations of the Committee for Review of Commercial Accounting System in State Electricity Boards**

(1) The Committee recommended that a nodal agency namely, CA or PFC (which is a developmental financial institution for power sector) develop a common software for a uniform system of accounts which could be adopted by different SEBs with modification under circumstances specific to them while doing so the nodal agency may set up a task force comprising of accounts personnel of a few SEBs and a professional computer software agency.

(2) In the changed scenario, the SEBs are required to negotiate with the IPPs for private power development, private parties for privatisation of distribution, with financial institutions including multilateral and bilateral agencies etc. This would require the SEBs to subject themselves to right financial disclosure and discipline requirements. This would necessitate a more comprehensive presentation of accounting data in the revenue account and balance sheet keeping in view the information interest of different agencies.

(3) Analytical presentation indicating quality of assets such a receivable and for better appreciation of the accounting information such as capital work in progress, be given.

(4) Scope of audit report should be broadened to cover auditor's comments.

(5) Management comments on auditor's report be also added as an Annexure to the annual statement of accounts.

(6) The Board's report on the functioning of the SEB should be enclosed with the annual account. It should bring out, summarily, *inter-alia*, the performance of the Board during the year, future perspective and other critical issues before the Board.

(7) Modification of rules providing for accounting policies.

(8) Adequate provisions in respect of gratuity and other terminal benefits should be made every year based on the realistic assessment of the liability.

(9) SEBs should fund depreciation reserves.

(10) Modifications in the schedule 3 of Part I of the rules be carried out to provide separate disclosure of electricity duty etc.

(11) The basic value of spares/items scrapped etc. should be written off as a loss to the organisation

(12) The internal audit system should be strengthened.

(13) Despite the problems in the assessment the Committee endorsed the imperative need for State Governments compensating SEBs for subsidised sale of power to the agricultural sector.

[English]

**National Institute of Oceanography**

4719. SHRI AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :  
SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD  
YADAV (JAHANABAD) :

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Institute of Oceanography has been entrusted with the task of retrieving the valuables from the sea;

(b) if so, the details of items retrieved by the Institute during the last three years, year-wise and the value thereof;

(c) whether due to shortage of funds the institute has not been provided with the latest exploratory technology;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government for providing the latest exploratory technology and equipment to the institute?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) No Sir. National Institute of Oceanography (NIO), Goa as per its charter is engaged in studies on Marine Archaeology and is not involved in the task of treasure location and retrieval.

(b) to (e): Do not arise.

[Translation]

**Criteria for Opening JNV**

4720. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the criteria laid down for opening of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas;

(b) whether the Government propose to make any amendment in the criteria; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The Scheme of Navodaya Vidyalaya envisage setting up of a Vidyalaya on the receipt of suitable proposals from the State Governments concerned including offer of 30 acres of land and suitable rent free temporary accommodation and other infrastructural facilities.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) It has been proposed in the Programme of Action 1992 on National Policy of Education 1986 that a comprehensive review of the Scheme of Navodaya Vidyalayas will be required after Navodaya Vidyalaya have been established and consolidated in all districts in the country. The process of establishing Navodaya Vidyalayas on the criteria mentioned in para (a) above is continuing pending review of the Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme.

[English]

**Development of National Highways in Kerala**

4721. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government consider to include Kerala State in the 'Golden quadrilateral' for the purpose of four laning;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) National Highways passing through Kerala do not fall on the Golden Quadrilateral which connects metropolitan cities of Delhi, Calcutta, Chennai and Mumbai.