

development of Harbour/Minor Port are placed by the Planning Commission in the Budget Grants of the State Government/UT concerned.

**Corporatisation of Ports**

577. MISS MABEL REBELLO:

SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 239 given in the Rajya Sabha on 14th December, 1999 and state:

(a) whether the corporatisation of ports will grant them more autonomy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Corporatisation of Ports involves converting them into companies which will have the independence of authority and decision making. It aims at granting operational freedom and flexibility to management in taking commercial and investment decisions. The Government control in these companies is proposed to be kept at necessary minimum level.

**Recommendations of National Commission for SC/ST in IRCC**

578. SHRI R. N. ARYA:

SHRI GANDHI AZAD:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission for SC/ST had issued directives to I.R.C.C. on 20th January, 1998 and 22nd January, 1999 after inspecting the records of corporation relating to service matters;

(b) if so, the details of the directives issued alongwith those implemented so far and those still to be implemented;

(c) by when Government propose to fully implement the Commission's directives, otherwise the reasons therefor;

(d) the details of employees promoted without vacancies during 1991-93 in the Corporation; and

(e) the post-wise reserved vacancies still existing in NHAI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) The National Commission for SC/ST vide their letter dated 29.1.98 made certain observations regarding promotion of few SC/ST employees based on the representation of SC/ST employees, which were suitably replied vide IRCC's letter No. 701100 dated 26.2.1998 explaining the factual position.

It is further stated that no communication dated 22.1.1999, from National Commission for SC/ST, has ever been received by IRCC Limited. However, the officers of Commission inspected the office records and 40 point roster on 16.9.96 and expressed their satisfaction.

(d) All the promotions held in IRCC between 1991-93 were made as per approved sanctioned strength and vacancy position reviewed and ratified by the Board, which is the competent authority.

(e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Expansion of berths at Visakhapatnam Port**

579. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether two more berths are proposed to be added to Visakhapatnam port;

(b) if so, how it would be financed; and

(c) by when the project would be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Through Private participation under BOT basis.

(c) Tenders have already been invited by Visakhapatnam Port