

Loans to shipping companies

489. DR. SHANTI G. PATEL: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that six Indian shipping companies have borrowed foreign exchange loans SAFAUNS;

(b) whether the Shipping Development Fund Committee has stood guarantee to these six Indian shipping companies;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) whether these six companies are facing the prospect of foreclosure; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by Government to secure the interests of S.D.F.C.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) Under SAFAUNS Scheme (Ship Acquisition From Abroad Under New Scheme), loans have been granted to number of shipping companies both in the public and private sectors which have been guaranteed by Shipping Development Fund Committee.

Statement showing details of loans drawn by shipping companies from Banks under SAFAUNS against guarantees issued by SDFC is given in the statement (See below).

(d) As the six companies have not been specified, it is difficult to say whether they are facing prospects of foreclosure.

(e) Steps taken to secure the interests of S.D.F.C. include:

(i) Watching the performance of shipping companies through two officials appointed by SDFC as Director on the Board of each SDFC-assisted shipping company and bringing to the notice of SDFC the defaults committed by the Company.

(ii) Decision by SDFC to foreclosure the mortgages against the ships of the defaulting company after considering the totality of circumstances leading to default.

(iii) Charging a higher rate of interest of 8 percent instead of concessional rate of interest (ranging from 3 per cent to 7.5 per cent) on the loans given by SDFC.

Statement

Details of loans drawn by Shipping Companies from Banks under SAFAUNS against guarantees issued by SDFC

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Amount of loan drawn
I. Public Sector :		
1	Shipping Corpn. of India Ltd.	316.77
2	Mogul Line Limited	21.13
TOTAL I :		337.90
II. Private Sector		
3	Chowgule Steamships Limited	21.08
4	Dempo Steamships Ltd.	1.07

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Amount of loan drawn
5	Deccan Shipping Company Limited	1.15
6	Essar Bulk Carriers Limited (now Essar Shipping Ltd.)	20.71
7	Garware Shipping Corpn. Ltd.	8.07
8	Hinengo Lines Limited	0.46
9	Indoceanic Shipping Co. Limited	3.85
10	Panchsheel Shipping Co. Limited	1.83
11	India Steamships Limited	11.10
12	Ratnakar Shipping Co. Ltd.	11.34
13	Sagar Shipping Co. Limited (amalgamated with Surrendra Overseas Ltd.)	13.58
14	Scindia Steam Navg. Co. Ltd.	10.80
15	Steamline Shipping Co. Ltd.	0.75
16	Thakur Shipping Co. Ltd.	3.88
17	Tolani Shipping Co. Ltd.	4.25
18	Karnataka Shipping Corpn. Ltd.	0.48
19	Surrendra Overseas Ltd.	17.51
20	Sujwala Shipping Co. Limited	1.13
21	South India Shipping Corpn. Ltd.	18.26
22	Hede Navigation Co. Ltd.	2.21
23	Varun Shipping Company Ltd.	1.35
TOTAL-II :		154.86
GRAND TOTAL I+II :		492.76

Dock Labour Boards

490. DR. SHANTI G. PATEL: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to abolish the Dock Labour Boards (D.LBs) in various ports of the country;

(b) whether the D.L.B. and port trust workers are to be brought under a single authority; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) There is no proposal at present to abolish the existing Dock Labour Boards at the Major Ports in India.

(b) No Decision has been taken by Government to bring the D.L.B. and port trust workers under a single authority.

(c) Does not arise.