

(b) if so, what are the details of the financial help given to the shipping companies during the 1984-85;

(c) whether it is a fact that the financial assistance has been given in a haphazard manner which has resulted in mushroom growth of private companies without the necessary skill and reserves; and

(d) whether Government propose to issue guidelines to regulate the financial assistance being given to the shipping companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Loan assistance totalling Rs. 28.55 crores was disbursed to shipping companies during 1984-85 by SDFC.

(c) No, Sir. Financial assistance to private shipping companies is given only after thorough examination of the proposal of the company by the Shipping Development Fund Committee, and Director General of Shipping which is discussed in detail in the meeting of Shipping Development Fund Committee. The recommendation of SDFC is then examined in the Ministry of Shipping and Transport and Ministry of Finance before final sanction is issued. The appraisal made by Director General, Shipping and Executive Director S.D.F.C. covers the aspects about the managerial skill available in the shipping company and also the financial structure of the company. There has been no mushroom growth of private shipping companies as the fact whether a company entering shipping business for the first time should be allowed to do so or not, is also looked into.

(d) The financial assistance to be given to shipping companies is regulated by provisions of Merchant

Shipping Act, 1958 and Shipping Development Fund Committee Rules. A committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Transport) has reviewed the arrangements for assistance to shipping companies. No decision has been taken by Government on these recommendations.

A/C Chair Cars in Vaigai Express and Pallavan Express

142. SHRI M. S. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to attach A/C Chair car in the Vaigai Express and the Pallavan Express trains running between Madurai and Madras;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Non-availability of Metre-Gauge A.C. Chair car coaches.

Amount allotted to States for Flood Control

143. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allotted to each State to meet the flood situation during the current year; and

(b) The special measures taken by the Central Government to prevent floods in the different parts of the country?