

(iii) System of Project Approval & Execution—Investment Strategy and Priority;

(iv) Inventory Management;

(v) Industrial Relations; and

(vi) Improvement in Capacity Utilisation.

The major recommendations are such as providing for a longer tenure for Chief Executives, delegation of powers, evolving criteria for performance evaluation tailing national plan with the capacities created in the public sector, developmental ordering, single package of clearance for import, establishing linkages between salary/wage increases to productivity, reduction by 5 per cent in the inventory/sales ratio over the previous year, improvement in capacity utilisation by at least 5 per cent 1984-85 as compared to the level achieved in 1983-84 and a number of measures aimed at organisation excellence.

(b) Various recommendations which emanated from the Conference have been circulated to the different agencies of Government and the Public Enterprises for initiating appropriate follow-up measures.

Coast Guards

857. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA;
SHRI LAL K. ADVANI;

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a report in the 'Indian Express' of June 1, 1984 to the effect that a person who fell in the sea from a deep sea fishing trawler near Konarak (Orissa) recently could not be rescued because of lack of ship-to-shore communication network and the Naval authority's refusal to land a helicopter holding that rescue work was Coastal Guards responsibility;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Coast Guard do not yet have equipment for such rescue work; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to prevent such incidents.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir. However it is not correct that the person could not be rescued because of lack of ship-to-shore communication network and the Naval authority's refusal to land a helicopter holding that rescue work was Coast Guards responsibility. 13 P & T Coastal Radio Stations and 5 Port Radio Stations all over India's coast maintain a continuous watch on selected distress frequencies and VHF Channels. The instructions and particulars for notifying authorities ashore in order to seek assistance are contained in the Annual edition of Notices to Mariners. The distressed trawler should have contacted the authorities on the prescribed frequencies. A Coast Guard F 27 aircraft was diverted to search the area on receipt of the message on the 10th April, 1984, and on completing its mission at Calcutta, reported that a number of fishing trawlers were combing the area. In view of these efforts already being in hand and the lapse of time making it unlikely that a helicopter search would bear fruit, and also because no Naval helicopter was available near Konark, a request received on the 11th April, for a search by a Naval helicopter was not agreed to.

(b) and (c) The existing fleet of the Coast Guard in the vicinity is deployed on search and rescue missions whenever an exigency arises and information is received in time. The fleet of the Coast Guard is being augmented as rapidly as possible by means of a development plan for the service. Induction of additional helicopters for rescue operations is also being considered as part of these plans.

External Debt

858. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA;
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA;
SHRI SURAJ PRASAD;

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total external debt as on 31st March, 1980 and 1984;