

SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN: May I know from the hon'ble Minister whether he discovered this inadequacy of berthing for the ships only after his return from study abroad because he had gone abroad to make study about how such a problem should be tackled? I suppose he studied this problem abroad and has come to this conclusion. May I know whether what I have said is a fact? Will the Minister admit it or not?

श्री खांड राम : हमारे पास 10 मेजर पोर्ट हैं। सिर्फ बाम्बे एक ऐसी जगह है जहाँ पर ज्यादा कंजेशन है। बाम्बे को ही सभी पसंद करते हैं क्योंकि वहाँ पर फेसेलिटीज हैं इसलिए हम कोशिश कर रहे हैं कि कांडला, हल्दिया मद्रास तथा विज्ञाग में या दूसरी जगह पर जाएं जहाँ पर कम माल आता है। बाम्बे में जरूर कंजेशन रहता है यह केवल इस साल ही नहीं, पिछले साल भी ऐसा ही था।

SHRI SADASIV BAGAITKAR: Is the hon'ble Minister aware that this system is all working in an unsatisfactory manner? We are importing edible oils so that the consumer should get it at a lower cost. May I know from him whether there are any inter-Ministerial Committees looking into this matter? It is very surprising that the ships arrive and, possibly, the Commerce Ministry has no knowledge of it, and ultimately it is the consumer who is penalised. May I know from the hon'ble Minister whether there is any inter-Ministerial or inter-Departmental committee to look after this thing?

Secondly, I would like to know from him whether it is not possible for his Ministry to bind down the shipping companies to send their ships to particular ports, or is it entirely left to the shipping company to send their ship to the port of their choice?

SHRI CHAND RAM: There is already an inter-Ministerial Committee to look into these matters. They have been issuing guidelines to the various Ministries to see that there

is no difficulty at any port. That is the only thing. It is up to the companies to divert their goods to other ports.

SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA: Mr. Chairman, Sir . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Verma, will you please wait for two or three minutes for paper laying?

SHRI S. W. DHABE: Sir, I wanted to ask a supplementary on this question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is enough. Papers to be laid.

Written Answers to Questions

Naval Chiefs recent visit to Tehran

*365. SHRI HARISHANKER BHABHA: SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state the objective of the recent visit of the Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Jal Cursetji to Tehran?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJI VAN RAM): The Chief of the Naval Staff paid a goodwill visit to Tehran towards the end of April 1978. The Commander-in-Chief of the Imperial Iranian Navy had visited India in March, 1977.

Foreign Aircraft over the Rann of Kutch

*366. SHRI N. P. CHENGALRAYA NAIDU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a press report appearing in the Hindustan Times of the 18th April, 1978 regarding a foreign aircraft flying over the Rann of Kutch area in Gujarat;

(b) whether Government have examined the report;

(c) if so, what are the details of the same; and