

SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pillion-riders of motor cycles and scooters do not wear crash helmets in contravention of the rules; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) A new Section 85A has been introduced in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 by the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 1977 providing for the compulsory use of crash helmets by drivers as well as pillion-riders of two wheeler vehicles.

The provisions of this Section will, however, come into force only after a date therefor is fixed by the Central Government. This has not yet been done, as the description of the protective headgear to be specified by rules under the Section is under consideration in consultation with the various authorities concerned.

The Delhi Administration amended the Delhi Motor Vehicle Rules 1940 with effect from 15-6-77 to make it compulsory for riders of two wheeled vehicles to wear crash helmets. This amendment does not, however, make it compulsory for a pillion-rider to use helmet.

No breach of any rules is, therefore, involved if a pillion-rider does not wear a crash helmet in Delhi, at present.

(b) Does not arise.

Trade between India and South America

438. SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision that in order to encour-

age trade between India and South America Indian ships will touch Latin American ports; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) and (b) The Shipping Corporation of India, a public sector undertaking, is examining a proposal of offering direct shipping service from India to some of the Latin American ports. No final decision has been taken so far.

Report of the Working Group to Review Tribal Administration

439. SHRI R. D. JAGTAP AVERGO-ANKAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the working group, headed by Shri J. P. Naik, appointed by the Central Government to review tribal administration has submitted its report; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

राज्यों के पुनर्गठन के लिए अनुरोध

440. श्री श्रीकान्त वर्मा : क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) कितन-कितन राज्य सरकारों ने केन्द्रीय सरकार से राज्यों के पुनर्गठन के लिए अनुरोध किया है ; और

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि भूतपूर्व राज्यपाल श्री श्रीमन् नारायण ने उनसे