

the arrear work was satisfactorily completed by them.

(b) This does not arise out of (a). However, the recommendation of the Committee on Public Undertakings to this effect is under consideration of Government.

Increase in overhead expenses of the CIWTC

1304. SHRI E. R. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was abnormal increase in the overhead expenses of the CIWTC during 1976-77 as compared to that during the year 1975-76;

(b) what are the broad heads under which this increase in expenditure has been shown; and

(c) what are the proportionate benefits derived by the undertaking as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) and (b) The total expenses booked in the account of the Corporation under sub-head (IX) Other Expenses (Including General Charges) rose from about Rs. 71.00 lakhs during 1975-76 to Rs. 421.00 lakhs during 1976-77. Of this increase of about Rs. 350 lakhs, the major portion is accounted for by expenditure under the following activities of the Corporation:—

- (i) High Seas Grain Rs. 234.42 lakhs lightning.
- (ii) Expenses on stevedoring. Rs. 116.22 ..
- (iii) ICC Oil operation Rs. 2.80 .. expenses.

There has, however, also been increase in expenditure under postage, telephone, TA, advertisement, entertainment books and periodicals, office equipment, bank charges and sundry expenses.

(c) The benefits derived from additional expenses incurred on postage, telephone, etc. cannot be separately quantified. There has been increase in income from High Sea grain lightening, stevedoring and IOC oil operations as follows:—

- (i) High seas grain Rs. 225.91 lakhs lightning.
- (ii) Stevedoring Rs. 140.29 lakhs
- (iii) ICC oil operation Rs. 38.27 lakhs

Physical verification of stores of the CIWTC

1305. SHRIMATI NOORJEHAN RAZACK: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any regular system of physical verification of stores of the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) and (b) There has been no regular system for physical verification of stores of the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation. The management has indicated the following reasons for this omission:—

- (i) Large number of stores items scattered over a vast area;
- (ii) Shortage of trained and competent staff in the Stores Section; and
- (iii) Lack of proper system.

Use of staff cars in the CIWTC

1306. SHRIMATI NOORJEHAN RAZACK: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the heavy expenditure involved on

the maintenance of staff cars by the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation; and

(b) if so, what is the expenditure on this account during 1977-78 and by whom these staff cars are mainly used?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. Steps are, however, being taken by the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation to curtail this expenditure.

(b) The expenditure on staff cars during 1977-78 was Rs. 2.50 lakhs approximately. The staff cars were mainly used by the Chairman-cum-Managing Director and the Principal Adviser. Heads of departments and other senior officers also use staff cars on official business. Transportation from office to residence is also allowed to officers on recovery of charges at rates approved by the Corporation.

Management of river transport services

1307. SHRIMATI NOORJEHAN RAZACK: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the river transport services are not being run properly; and

(b) if so, what measures Government propose to take to ensure efficient management of the river services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) and (b) The primary responsibility for development of inland water transport in India under the Constitution devolves on the State Governments. At present river services are mainly being run on certain stretches on the river Ganga, the Brahmaputra, the Sunderbans waterways, the river Mandovi

and Zuari, backwaters of Kerala and in the Krishna-Godavari delta canals. The State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Karnataka have reported that the river services in the States are being run efficiently while those of Maharashtra, Bihar, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu have reported that no river services are being run by Governments in these States. The Government of Goa, Daman and Diu have reported that the river services are not being run efficiently and that they have taken necessary steps for replacement of old engines and acquisition of one new ferry to improve their working.

The Central Inland Water Transport Corporation are also running river services. The services run by Central Inland Water Transport Corporation have, however, been running at a loss. The Government has taken effective steps to improve the management of C.I.W.T.C. by appointing a new Chairman-cum-Managing Director and efforts are being made to revitalise the river services operated by the Corporation.

Realization of debt of the CIWTC

1308. SHRIMATI NOORJEHAN RAZACK: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the up-to-date figures outstanding against sundry debtors of the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation; and

(b) what action Government have taken or propose to take to realise the arrears of debt?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) The up-to-date figures outstanding against sundry debtors as on 31-3-78 are as follows:—