

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:—