

(xii) Under the terms of agreement with M.M.P. Lines Ltd., vacuators with fuel oil and lubricants, etc., were required to be supplied by the Corporation, M.M.P. Lines Ltd., were to provide only labour for working on the mother ship and skilled engineers, supervisors, foreman and workmen to work on the vacuators. As these operations were ultimately done by Madras Marine a sub-contractor of M.M.P. Lines Ltd., it would appear that M.M.P. Lines Ltd., were paid a huge remuneration without doing much work or incurring much expenditure. In fact while M.M.P. Lines Ltd., were paid at the rate of Rs. 40 per tonne for the ship "Kapetan Markos" and at the rate of Rs. 32 for "Jagleela", they paid only at the rate of Rs. 6.50 per tonne to Madras Marine for doing practically the whole operation. M.M.P. Lines Ltd., received Rs. 39.53 lakhs for work on "Kapetan Markos" and Rs. 54.13 lakhs for work on "Jagleela" but they paid only Rs. 5.31 lakhs and Rs. 12.5 lakhs respectively to Madras Marine thereby netting about Rs. 75.85 lakhs in these two operations only.

(xiii) M.M.P. Lines Ltd., had sub-contracted the work relating to the providing of labour etc., to Madras Marines Private Ltd., at the rate of Rs. 6.50 per tonne for the ships "Kapetan Markos" and "Jagleela" in utter violation of their terms of agreement which prohibited such sub-contracting.

Non-Realisation of dues by C I W.T.C.

803. SHRI P. K. KUNJACHEN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several lakhs of rupees are due for a long time from a private firm M/s. M.M.P. Lines, Calcutta to the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for which the amount has not been realised so far; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to recover the amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) According to the C.I.W.T.C. a sum of Rs. 8.77 lac_s is due to them from the firm as on 30th June, 1978.

(b) A notice was served by Central Inland Water Transport Corporation on M/s. M.M.P. Lines for realising their dues but the former has denied any liability for the claim.

(c) Central Inland Water Transport Corporation has served pleader's notice for recovery of the amount from M.M.P. Lines. CIWTC are also contemplating to file a suit in a court of law for realisation of the outstanding dues.

Corruption Charges against Officials of the C.I.W.T.C.,

804. SHRI HARKISHAN SINGH SURJEET: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an enquiry committee has been set up to probe into corruption charges against the top officials of the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation who were involved in dubious sale of vessels as a result of which the Corporation had suffered a loss of Rs. 21 crores; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. However, C.B.I. has been asked to investigate into the malpractices and irregularities reported in the sale of the vessels.

Fixation of price for American Cotton

805. SHRI HARKISHAN SINGH SURJEET: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have received any memoran-