

tion. The Government of India, being aware that an internal dispute has arisen in the Hind Mazdoor Sabha regarding the position of the General Secretary have been dealing with the President of Hind Mazdoor Sabha.

Irano Wind Shipping Company

325. SHRI N. G. GORAY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a joint venture between the Shipping Corporation of India and the Arya National Shipping Lines of Iran viz., Irano Hind Shipping Company, has applied for membership of the Japan Persian Gulf Conference;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the present service from the east coast of India to the Persian Gulf has not been economical; and

(c) whether Government propose to close the Irano Hind Shipping Company ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI) . (a) The Board of Directors of the Irano Hind Shipping Company had decided in October 1975 that the company should apply for membership of the Japan-Persian Gulf Conference.

(b) As a result of congestion in the Persian Gulf Ports and the long detention of ships, the cost of operation of services to these ports has increased in recent times. As various shipping companies operate this service and they do not prepare ship-wise voyage results, it is not possible to say that this service has not been economic."

(c) The question does not arise because the Irano Hind Shipping Company is a foreign company registered in Iran and functioning under Iranian laws.

Issue of Commemorative Stamps during 1975

326-. SHRI N. G. GORAY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names and occasions when commemorative stamps were issued during 1975; and

(b) the reasons for not issuing stamps for which Government had earlier taken a decision ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA) : (a) A statement showing names and occasions of stamps issued in 1975 is laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha. [See Appendix XCIV. Annexure No. 42.]

(b) Only the following three issues could not be brought out although programmed for 1975:

- (i) Adi Shankaracharya. (ii) Wild Life Series, (iii) Jim Corbett.

The design in respect of the first two could not be finalised in time. The third issue could not be brought out in 1975 due to certain administrative difficulties. This is being issued on 24-1-76.

National Apex Body

327. SHRI KALYAN ROY :
SHRI BIR CHANDRA DEB BURMAN :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a National Apex Body has been constituted;

(b) if so, what are its functions and the number of meetings which have taken place so far; and

(c) what are the decisions arrived at the meetings ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI K. V. RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) Yes.

(b) The Apex Body is intended to sort out the general problems of industrial relations in private sector in order to motivate the workers to increase productivity and production and help the Government to solve other related problems. The Body is largely concerned with laying down policies and guidelines applicable to all industries and services.

Six meetings of the National Apex Body has been held so far.