

(b) if so, what progress has been made therein?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI KAMLAPATI TRIPATHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Steamer services between Calcutta and Assam via Bangladesh were resumed on 19th/20th November, 1972 and are being continued.

Memorandum Submitted by Port Trust of Paradeep

*234. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some months back the Deputy Minister of Shipping and Transport visited Paradeep Port;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that a memorandum was submitted to him by a member of the Port Trust of Paradeep; and

(c) what are the main demands enumerated in the memorandum and the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI KAMLAPATI TRIPATHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes.

(c) The main demands enumerated in the Memorandum and the position regarding them are indicated below:

Ship building Yard.—Government had appointed a Techno-economic Working Group of officers to examine the various sites recommended by the State Governments. The Working Group evaluated from the technical and economic point of view the various sites recommended and have submitted their report which is under examination. Recently negotiations were also held with certain consultants for preparation of preliminary project reports on the various sites found suitable by the Techno-Economic Working Group. A final decision in the matter will be taken by the Govern-

ment after receipt and evaluation of the various preliminary project reports.

Under-utilisation of Port's capacity to handle Iron ore should be rectified and increased capacity should be created.—This matter has been taken up with the Railways and the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation to ensure better movement of ore. Separately, it has been assessed that by the end of 5th Plan Period, Paradip may be handling 4-5 million tonnes of Iron ore. It will be possible to do so by improving the handling capacity of the existing plant.

Development of Paradip Township.—This is linked with the question of transfer of land to the Port Trust by the State Government. This was recently discussed with the Government of Orissa who have been urged to find an early solution to this matter.

Financial help to the Port.—Plans for development, as per assessed requirements, are given.

For meeting other liabilities, ways and means advances are also given.

Recognition of Calcutta University as a National University

*235. SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI:
SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY:
SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Committee appointed by Government to go into the affairs of the Calcutta University has recommended for recognition of the Calcutta University as a National University; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURAL HASAN): (a) and (b) The report of the Committee has been received by the University Grants Com-

mission recently and is under its examination.

**Foreign Exchange Expenditure
on Repair of Ships**

*236. SHRI NABIN CHANDRA
BURAGOHAIN:

SHRI K. B. CHETTRI:

DR. V. A. SEYID MUHAM-
MAD:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND
TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to relax the restrictions in regard to the expenditure in terms of foreign exchange on repairs to ships; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND
TRANSPORT (SHRI KAMLAPATI
TRIPATHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been proposed that shipping companies may be allowed to incur

expenditure on repairs to ships and purchase of spares upto £ 1,000 in respect of vessels of less than 30,000 GRT and upto £ 2,000 in respect of vessels of 30,000 GRT and over without obtaining the prior approval of the Government.

Production of Jute

508. SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be
pleased to state:

(a) the estimated production of jute in the current year in each State in terms of acreage in comparison with the previous year; and

(b) the details of incentives given for more production of jute given by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI
ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) The
final estimates of area and production of
jute in the current year have not so far
become available.

The area, and production under the crop
during 1972-73 and 1973-74 were as
follows:

State	Area '000 hectares		Production '000 hales of 180 kgs. each	
	Area		Production	
	1972-73 †	1973-74	1972-73 †	1973-74
Assam	134.4	149.0	1010.1*	1135.8*
Bihar	131.4	144.0(T)	687.5*	800.8*(P)
Meghalaya	7.3	7.1	49.8	39.6
Orissa	41.6	57.3	381.5	401.1
Tripura	8.3	7.9	58.5	49.2
U.P.	9.9	8.6	87.6*	76.5*
West Bengal	367.3	418.5	2712.3*	3673 0*
All India	700.2	792.4	4978.3	6176 0

(T)=Based on Timely Reporting Scheme.

*Based on the results of Random Sample Crop cutting surveys.

(P)=Provisional.

†Fully Revised Estimates for Orissa, U.P. & West Bengal and Final estimates for others

NOTE:— Jute is not grown to any appreciable extent in other States and Union Territories.