to be decided upon the terms and conditions on whic l foreign credit facilities are available fron various countries. It is also not possible to lay down standard designs of ships of i 11 shipowners to follow because the tecl nical developments are taking place very f. st and the requirements of different trac es vary. Our requirements, where necess ry will require to be adapted also to the tyse of ships that may be available or acci ited on order with foreign ship-yards.

INC EASE IN ILLITERACY

785. SHRI CHITTA BASU : SHRI PRANAB KUMAR Ml IKHERIEE: SHRI I. P. YADAV: SHRI SRI KANT MISHRA ; DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : SHR LALK. ADVANI: SHR JAGDISH PRASAD M VT HUR: SHR N. K. SHEJWALKAR: SHR SUNDAR SINGH BHAN- D IRI : SHRI PREM MANOHAR: SHRI NIRANIAN VARMA :

Will the finister of EDUCATION AND YOUTH SI RVICES be pleased to state:

(a) wheth.T it is a fact that the number of illiterate in the country have increased from 298 nillion to 349 million in 1969;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whet ler the subject was discussed at the 35th session of the Educational Advisory Board held during May, 1970.

(d) if sc, the details of the recommendations male by the Board and the decisions taken by Government thereon: and

(e) the letails of various other steps Governmet t propose to take to liquidate illiteracy ii the country in the shortest possible tir le ?

THE D JPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES (PROF. A. K. KISKU) : (a) to (e). A statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The growth of literacy in India is slow, less than 1 per cent per year. The population is increasing more rapidly, at more than 2 per cent per year. As a consequence, although the percentage of literacy is increasing from year to year, the number of illiterates is also increasing.

(c) No. Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The responsibility for the eradication of illiteracy rests upon the State Governments. The Government of India can at best stimulate action in this field through research, pilot projects and clearing house functions. The major Central or Centrally Sponsored programmes included in the 4th Five Yeer Plan are (i) Farmers' Education and Functional Literacy Projects; (ii) Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organisations working in the field of Adult Education; (iii) The National Board of Adult Education; and (iv) Pilot Projects for spread of Literacy.

A.R.C. REPORT ON CENTRE-STATE RELATIONS

786. SHRI R. P. KHAITAN : SHRI CHITTA BASU: SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: DR. SALIG RAM : SHRI KRISHAN KANT: SHRI ARJUN ARORA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleasec to refer to reply to Starred Question No 75 given in the Rajya Sabha on April, 2.c 1970 and state :

(a) whether Government have sino examined the ARC report on the Centre State Relations; and

(b) if so, the details of the recommec dations accepted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b). The report is still under examination.

INCREASE IN SHIPPING FREIGHT

787. SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR SHRI SUNDAR SINGH BHANDARI . SHRI PREM MANOHAR: SHRI J. P. YADAV

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

(a) the number of times shipping freight between India and the countries of Europe were increased since June, 1966 together with the amount and the reasons for the increase in each case;

(b) its effect on the trade and shipping of India; and

(c) the reaction of the Government of India and the All India Shippers' Council in regard thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SARDAR IQBAL SINGH) : (a) ITie requisite information is given be-ow :—

Date	Quantum of increase	Reasons for increase
15-9-1966	7-5%	Increase in the cost of operation.
15-7-1970	12-5%	Increase in the cost of operation.

(b) While generally increase in Shipping eight rates would tend to reduce the com-etitiveness of our export products, ship-ing freight is only one of the several ictors which influence the foreign trade of le country. It is therefore, difficult to olate the effect of a single factor on the se and fall in trade. However, the gene-il effect of the increase in freight rates l Indian Shipping will be beneficial be-iuse the earnings of Indian shipping commies who are members of the Confe-nce will also increase.

(c) As a result of pressures brought by the All India Shipper's Council and other Shippers organisations and the Government of India, the Conference was persuaded to bring down the quantum of increase in July, 1970 from 15% as originally proposed to 12.5% and the Suez surcharge from 15% to 13.5% and also to give special treatment to certain specific sensitive commodities of export.

SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS FOR EX-CHIEF MINISTER AND EX-DV. CHIEF MINISTER, WEST BENGAL

788. SHRI KALYAN ROY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether security arrangements have been made for the ex-Chief Minister and ex-Deputy Chief Minister of West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the daily amount of expendi ture incurred by the Government of West Bengal, between April to July 1970 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. P\NT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(h) It will not be in the public interest to give the details of the security arrangements or of the expenditure incurred on the same.

RESOLUTION PASSED BY IAS OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION IN WEST BENG\L

789. SHRI KALYAN ROY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India are aware that the IAS Officers' Association in West Bengal met in April-May 1970 at Calcutta and passed a resolution criticis ing Shri Dhawan, Governor of West Bengal:

(b) if so, the details of the resolution;

(c) whether the Governor of West Bengal has given his views about this re-solution; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Central Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) Yes, Sir.