

PROPOSAL OF AMERICAN STEAMSHIP LINES TO RAISE CARGO FREIGHT CHARGES

***28. SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE:** Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the decision taken by the American Steamship lines to raise cargo freight charges from July 1963;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative whether such a decision will adversely affect India; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to avoid such adverse effect?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) Yes, Sir, it will adversely affect our foreign exchange bill in respect of our imports from the U.S.A.

(c) We have no powers to control the fixation or upward revision of freight rates by conferences etc. covering overseas trades. We have, however, informed the India, Pakistan, Ceylon and Burma Outward Freight Conference that we view this increase with grave concern and have suggested that any move for increase in freight rates should be discussed with Government prior to arriving at a final decision.

TARGETS OF NEW WAREHOUSES

***29. SHRI BAIRAGI DWIBEDY:** Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state whether the Central Warehousing Corporation has achieved its targets relating to capacity, volume of business and percentage of occupancy in the new

warehouses during the first two years of the Third Five Year Plan period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): The Central Warehousing Corporation has exceeded these targets.

WITHDRAWAL OF TRAVEL CONCESSION

***30. SHRI A. D. MANI:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that travel concessions for special classes of people like music, dance and dramatic troupes, athletic and sports contingents and circus parties have been withdrawn; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To conserve the Railway resources in the context of the present emergency.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF GOSAMWARDHAN COUNCIL

1. SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the recommendations made by the Gosamwardhan Council at its meeting held in the month of February 1963; and

(b) the action taken by the Central Government on those recommendations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): (a) and (b) A statement is attached. [See Appendix XLIII, Annexure No. 1.]