

**Augmenting fleet and capacity of SCI**

1639. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the total number of fleet of vessels of Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) at present;
- (b) what is the current tonnage capacity of SCI; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to augment the fleet and the tonnage capacity of SCI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) Sir, Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. (SCI) owns a fleet of 68 vessels at present with total tonnage capacity of 5.847 million dead weight tonnage (DWT).

(c) As delivery of new vessels usually takes 2-3 years and it is opportune time to take advantage of prevailing low asset prices, SCI has taken a considered view to purchase vessels from first hand owners to augment the fleet and the tonnage capacity.

**Development of inland waterways**

1640. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of inland waterways available in the country, at present, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether Government proposes to encourage inland waterways system and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of inland waterways proposed to be developed during the next three years, State/UT-wise;
- (d) the funds allocated for this purpose during the last three years and the current year, year-wise and State/UT-wise; and
- (e) the extant policy of Government regarding construction of National Waterways Transport Grid which was supposed to cover primarily five national waterways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) Under the National Waterways Act, 2016, 111 inland waterways,