

(b) Since the guidelines are applicable only to single hull tankers older than 25 years, there is no likelihood of guidelines affecting the crude import trade. There will not be any adverse impact on the export of rice/wheat/sugar etc. as these commodities are carried by bulk carriers, which are not covered by these guidelines.

(c) Yes, Sir. There already exists a monitoring mechanism in the form of Port State Control and Flag State Control.

Assistance for upliftment of dalits

†2819. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that many State Governments have still not obtained the assistance given by the Centre for the upliftment of dalits;

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

(c) what steps Government are going to take for betterment of those States, who are deprived of these facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Economic condition of muslims

2820. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the economic condition of Muslims in the country has deteriorated during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to ameliorate their condition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI NAGMANI) : (a) No separate study or survey has been made by this Ministry regarding the economic condition of any particular religious community.

(b) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.