

(v) *International Ship repair facilities:*

Cochin, with its strategic location, invited Expression of Interest (EOI) for setting up of a ship repair yard for ocean going vessels to which one request was received. This is being examined. This project may take place under BOT format or by a Joint Venture approach with Cochin Port Trust. Land for setting up the yard will be provided by Cochin Port. Other facilities like berthing, bunkering etc. to the vessels will be provided by Port under approved Tariff by the Tariff Authority for Major Ports.

(vi) *Special Economic Zone.*

Steps have been taken to develop special Economic Zone (SEZ) to cater exclusively for port based industries. Special economic zone is to be located at Vallarpadam & Puthuvypeen. State Government has recommended the project and Department of Commerce (Govt. of India) has issued in-principle approval on 27.11.2002. The projects expected to be set-up here are Trans-shipment Terminal, Bunkering Terminal, Ship Repair Facilities, Port Based Processing Industries, Golf Course etc.

New Mumbai Port

1911. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the largest and most modern container port in the country is New Mumbai which ranks 47 in World rating;

(b) whether out of 287.7 MT of cargo handled in 2001-2002, 70 MT was containerisable of which only 55 per cent was shipped in container; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government to build up the containerable capacity to meet our requirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR): (a) Jawaharlal Nehru Port at Navi Mumbai is the largest container port in India equipped with state-of-the-art cargo handling facilities with particular thrust on handling of containerized cargo. As per the information contained in the July, 2002 issue of "Cargo Systems", a U.K. based publication, Jawaharlal Nehru Port is in position no. 40 amongst the top 100 Container Ports in the world.

(b) Normally, only general cargo is containerisable since the liquid and solid cargoes are effectively handled and carried in bulk as it is economical and faster. The aggregate cargo handled by major ports during 2001-02 consisted of 53.46 MT general cargo of which 37.22 MT, including small parcels of dry bulk and liquid bulk cargoes also, representing about 70%, were shipped in containers.

(c) The container handling capacity in major ports at the end of the Ninth Five Year Plan period in March, 2002 was 37.00 MTPA. During the Tenth Plan (2002-2007) period additional capacities at the major ports are envisaged to be created for container handling to the extent of 24.50 MTPA, mainly through private sector investment, to cope with the anticipated growth in container traffic.

Atrocities of SCs/STs

1912. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that atrocities on SCs/STs are on the increase in the country particularly in the State of Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) As per the crime statistics of the National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, there has been very slight increase in incidence of crime against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from 29,645 cases in the year 2000 to 29,683 cases in the year 2001. So far as the State of Rajasthan is concerned the incidence of crime against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has declined from 6320 cases in the year 2000 to 5915 cases in the year 2001.

Trained technicians for handicapped persons

†1913. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of trained technicians for five crore handicapped persons of India, which constitute one-tenth of the total number of handicapped persons in the world;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.