

**Acquisition of Coastal Vessels and Movement of Coal**

**\*190. Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Shipping Corporation of India is going to acquire six coastal vessels for stepping up the movement of coal;

(b) whether these vessels would be purchased by direct negotiations with foreign shipbuilders or by inviting tenders; and

(c) whether the possibility of having some of these vessels built by the Hindustan Shipyard Limited at Visakhapatnam has been ascertained?

**The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) A proposal for the acquisition of six vessels for the coastal trade has been received from the Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. and is under consideration of Government.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

(c) As the Hindustan Shipyard at Visakhapatnam will be busy during the entire Third Five Year Plan period in building ships for the overseas trade it would not be possible to construct these ships at that yard. But the possibility of getting some of the ships built in the country is being explored.

**Deep-Water Paddy**

**\*191.** { Shri M. N. Swamy;  
Shri M. K. Kumaran:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of flooded areas in the country; and

(b) the feasibility of raising deep-water paddy in combination with fish culture?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram**

**Subhag Singh):** (a) No reliable data is available of the extent of flooded areas in the country. Rough indications show that one million acres of land remain under water for atleast four months in a year.

(b) It is feasible to raise paddy in combination with fish culture in fields holding water for a considerable part of the year and reservoirs. It would not be possible to take up this work in water logged areas as sufficient water is not available on the surface.

**Extension of Industrial Disputes Act to Railways**

**\*192. Shri Nambiar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian National Trade Union Congress has demanded the extension of the Industrial Disputes Act to the Railways; and

(b) if so, whether the Government of India have considered the demand and taken a decision thereon?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):**

(a) Government have not received any such demand from the Indian National Trade Union Congress so far. The Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, is applicable to Railways also.

(b) Does not arise.

**Defects in Hirakud Dam**

**\*193.** { Shri Surendranath Dwivedy;  
Shri Raghunath Singh;  
Shri P. Venkatasubbalah;  
Shri K. Pattnayak;  
Shri Eswara Reddy:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the statement of the Chief Minister of Orissa made at a press conference at Bhubaneswar on the 14th July, 1962 to the effect that some glaring defects have been detected in regard to the Hirakud Dam;