

STATEMENT

It has been the practice to evaluate periodically the progress of implementation of the Community Development Programme and to apprise the State Governments of the failings and shortfalls, apart from the review of the Programme in the annual conferences of Development Commissioners and State Ministers. The last Annual Conference held in July, 1964, made specific recommendations to improve the performance in the following strategic areas, viz., preparation and implementation of realistic village agricultural production plans, institutional and departmental co-ordination to achieve increased farm production, strengthening the programme of training for progressive farmers and for the various Extension functionaries, routing of funds of the different Development Departments through the Block agency to strengthen the programme content, giving advance intimation to Panchayati Raj institutions of financial provisions well in time to enable them to frame realistic budgets, ensuring proper working conditions to the Extension staff and weeding out unsuitable personnel.

On the basis of the annual appraisal of the Programme for 1963-64, a letter has just been issued by the Ministry followed by a letter from the Minister to all the States, with special emphasis on the need for increasing the provision for Community Development in regard to those States where the programme is suffering owing to inadequacy of funds.

Cheap Air Service

- *326. { Dr. Saradish Roy:
Dr. Ranee Sen:
Shri Vishram Prasad:
Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
Shri A. V. Raghavan:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shri Mohammad Elias:

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

(a) whether a cheap Air Service is proposed to be run by the Indian Airlines Corporation; and

(b) if so, the particulars thereof?

The Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Kanunge): (a) and (b). The Indian Airlines Corporation have no immediate plans for running a Coach Class service.

Rice Export to Iraq

- *331. { Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:
Shri Solanki:
Shri Mahananda:
Shri Narasimha Reddy:
Shri D. J. Naik:
Shri Kajrolkar:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that recently 10192 bags of rice were exported to Iraq;

(b) if so, at what price this rice was sold; and

(c) the circumstances under which the decision to export rice was taken?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) Yes, Sir. 11312 bags of superior Basmati rice were exported.

(b) Disclosure of price would not be desirable as it is treated confidential as between buyers and sellers.

(c) The decision to export some small quantities of this superior variety of rice for the use of Indian nationals abroad was taken about two years ago. The exports have since been suspended.

Convention of All India Panchayati Raj

*332. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state: