

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and when the proposal will be implemented; and

(c) how much will accrue due to the enhancement of the port charges?

* **The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy):** (a) to (c). A proposal to levy a surcharge of 57.5 per cent on charges payable by vessels engaged in overseas trade has been received for approval under the Calcutta Port Act. As a result of devaluation, the Port has to meet an additional expenditure, according to current estimate, of about Rs. 1.5 crore per annum. This is primarily due to increase in service charges on IBRD loans and sterling debentures. The additional expenditure to the Port in 1966-67 will be about Rs. 75 lakhs. To meet these additional commitments, it has been found necessary to increase port charges. The additional revenue expected from this levy is estimated at Rs. 117.7 lakhs per year.

The proposal is still under the consideration of Government who will take a decision after considering the objections raised to this proposal by representatives of shipowners.

Air Accidents

*204. **Shri Gulshan:**
Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
Shri Hukam Chand
Kachhavaia:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:

Will the Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism be pleased to state:

(a) the number of air accidents of both Air-India and Indian Airlines Corporation during the year 1966, so far;

(b) the total loss and casualties;

(c) the total compensation paid, if any, to the victims; and

(d) the results of the enquires held if any?

The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) One Air-India aircraft and four I.A.C. aircraft were involved in accidents since 1st January, 1966. In addition, one Dutch registered aircraft operated by I.A.C. on charter was also involved in an accident during this period.

(b) One hundred and fifty six persons lost their lives in these accidents. Three out of the six aircraft involved in the accidents were a total loss. These were, however, fully insured and there is no financial loss to the Corporations due to their destruction. The other three aircraft were substantially damaged. Information regarding extent of loss suffered by the Corporation on account of these accidents is not readily available.

(c) No claims have yet been settled by Air-India. Indian Airlines Corporation have paid a compensation aggregating Rs. 2,25,500/- to the nominees of the deceased crew. No compensation has been paid to the legal heirs of the deceased passengers as in most cases legal formalities have not yet been completed.

(d) Investigation in respect of only one of the six accidents has so far been completed. This accident has been attributed to poor landing technique of the pilot.

Rejection of Cattle by U.S.S.R.

*205. **Shri Tula Ram:**
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:
Shri Kapur Singh:
Shri Buta Singh:
Shri Narayan Reddy:

Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of U.S.S.R. have returned and refused to take SAHI-