

in favour of any exemption being granted therefrom or for the abolition thereof.

(d) Does not arise.

Import of Rice from U.A.R.

*438. **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda:

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

(a) whether U.A.R. has offered to sell India 60,000 tons of rice from its current crop;

(b) whether the deal has been finalised; and

(c) if so, the terms and conditions thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of **Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation** (Shri Govinda Menon): (a) The indications are that the U.A.R. may offer us about 60,000 metric tons of rice from the new crop.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Compulsory Rationing

*439. **Shri S. C. Samanta:**
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Asad:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Dr. M. M. Das:

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

(a) the assessment of his Ministry on the working of compulsory rationing in various cities all over India;

(b) the difficulties, if any, experienced in the working of the rationing machinery and how it has been solved;

(c) whether Government are aware that a large number of people are not in favour of continuance of the compulsory rationing; and

(d) whether Government are considering any proposal for gradual relaxations and ultimate winding up of the rationing machinery?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of **Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation** (Shri Govinda Menon): (a) Compulsory rationing in various places all over India is working fairly satisfactorily.

(b) No difficulties have been experienced in the working of the rationing machinery.

(c) Government is aware that some people are not in favour of rationing.

(d) No, Sir.

Graving Dock at Hindustan Shipyard

*440. **Dr. P. N. Khan:**
Dr. M. M. Das:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Asad:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
Shri H. C. Linga Reddy:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

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

(a) whether the Project Report from the Japanese Technical Consultants regarding the construction of graving dock as an adjunct of the Hindustan Shipyard, Visakhapatnam has been received by Government;

(b) whether any decision has been taken in the light of the Report; and

(c) whether the construction of the graving dock is going to be postponed due to financial difficulties?

The Minister of **Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism** (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) The report from the