

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

Japanese Consultants on the Graving Dock Project has since been received by the Hindustan Shipyard Ltd., Visakhapatnam.

(b) and (c). The report is under examination.

Supply of Essential Commodities for Super Bazars

***441. Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:**

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

(a) whether Government are procuring the supplies of essential commodities direct from the manufacturers for Super Bazars in Delhi; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to enact any law to procure the supplies from the manufacturers at subsidized rates?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No such proposal is under consideration.

Free Legal Aid

***442. Shri Shree Narayan Das:** Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state the steps, if any, taken so far for providing free legal aid or the extension of existing legal aid schemes to ensure that justice is neither denied nor delayed by reason of inadequate financial means, since Independence?

The Minister of Law (Shri G. S. Pathak): Administration of Justice is a subject included in the State List and the grant of legal aid and assistance to the poor is, therefore, primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Government of India has also been giving its attention to the subject to legal aid to the poor since 1946. Attempts made by the Government of India to persuade the State Governments to for-

mulate Schemes for providing substantial legal aid to the poor have not met with much success mainly due to the reluctance of the State Governments to undertake the heavy financial burdens involved in any comprehensive scheme of legal aid.

Schemes for grant of legal aid to the poor have been made by the States of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Punjab, Rajasthan and West Bengal and also by the Union territories of Pondicherry, Goa, Daman & Diu, Himachal Pradesh and Dadra and Nagar Haveli. These schemes generally provide for the grant of legal assistance at Government's cost to undefended persons whose income does not exceed certain fixed limits, or who are members of the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes and who have to institute or defend civil or criminal proceedings. The aid generally consists of assignment of a lawyer at the State's expense and in certain cases remission of court fees and other law charges too.

Cochin Airport

***443. Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri Maniyangadan:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the flights on the IAC Planes touching Cochin from Madras and Bombay do not carry the full load factor because of unfavourable soil condition at the Cochin airport;

(b) if so, the approximate loss sustained per trip by the Fokker Friendship Plane from Cochin to Bombay or Bombay to Cochin;

(c) whether an alternative civil airport is being developed in the vicinity of Cochin in view of its growing industrial and commercial importance;

(d) if so, the cost of the project; and