

Government of Andhra Pradesh to hasten the supply of the required 1000 tons of steel to complete the work; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathl):** (a) and (b). No specific report was received from the Andhra Pradesh Government to the effect that work was held up on this Project due to shortage of steel. It was, however, reported by the project authorities that the Krishna Barrage would be completed by the end of November, 1957 except for the erection of gates for which a further quantity of about 431 tons of steel would be required.

(c) The Iron and Steel Controller has been requested by the Ministry of Steel Mines and Fuel to arrange for the supply of the immediate requirements of 431 tons on a top priority basis either from M's. Tatas or from Imported Stocks

12 hrs.

### SHORT NOTICE QUESTION AND ANSWER

#### Supply of Rice to Bombay City

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S.N.Q.  $\epsilon$ . { Shri Naushir Bharucha:  
Shri Assar:

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

(a) whether Bombay city has been adequately supplied by the Centre with the requisite quota of rice;

(b) whether Government are aware that people in Bombay city do not get even half a seer of rice after standing for hours in long queues at Fair Price Shops;

(c) what has been the actual supply of rice from the Centre for Bombay city in the last three months; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to relieve the acute shortage of this basic foodgrain in Bombay city?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas):** (a) Consistent with stocks held by Gov-

ernment and the fact that import of rice into Bombay City was free while export of rice out of Bombay City was completely banned, sufficient quantities of Government rice was being distributed in the City.

(b) No, Sir. At present 3 seers of rice is being issued per consumer.

(c) During August, September and October, 1957, 22,750 tons of rice had been distributed in Bombay City.

(d) Government have already started distributing 9,000 tons of rice per month in Bombay city and there are at present no long queues in the shops.

**Shri Naushir Bharucha:** Will the Government give an assurance that Bombay City will be provided with sufficient rice to enable the State Government to honour its obligations under the family identity cards proposed to be issued?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** We are now supplying at the rate of 9,000 tons of rice for supplies to Bombay City, and 3 seers of rice are being given to each consumer with the condition that the consumer would have to take twice the quantity in wheat also. With the introduction of the card system it is expected that the normal offtake will be 15,000 tons of wheat and 8,000 tons of rice in Bombay

**Shri B. K. Gaikwad:** If an adequate quantity is supplied, may I know why there are long queues? May I know if it is a fact that the number of fair price shops is inadequate?

**Mr. Speaker:** How does one follow from the other? Even in case there is sufficient supply, queues are necessary.

**Shri B. K. Gaikwad:** If there are enough number of shops, necessarily there will be no big queues. There is not enough number of shops.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** For the months of September and October we allotted 9,000 tons each month. But for November we expected that there would be arrivals from internal sources. So, we reduced the quota to the Bombay

State to 8,000 tons—that is, 4,000 tons for the City and 4,000 tons for the suburbs. But then it was said that there was this phenomenon of long queues, and so we have taken immediate measures and increased the quota to the previous level, namely, 8,000 tons per month to Bombay City.

**Shri B. K. Galkwad:** May I know whether Government is aware of the population of Bombay City including Bombay suburban, and what is the requirement of Bombay, including Bombay suburban?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** I have already said that the estimate of the requirements is that it will be about 15,000 tons of wheat and 8,000 tons of rice.

**Mr. Speaker:** I will now go to the next item of business. I have sufficiently allowed questions on this.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### Drawings for Building Ships

\*854. **Shri Easwara Iyer:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all original drawings for ships being built at Visakhapatnam Shipyard come from France;

(b) if so, what is the average cost of drawings purchased from France, and

(c) the reasons for not making the drawings in the Shipyard itself?

**The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):** (a) Generally all working drawings for ships constructed at the Shipyard are prepared by the Shipyard's own drawing office and only basic plans and designs are bought from outside.

(b) The cost of drawings purchased from France is as follows:—

V.C. 135 "ANDAMANS"  
Rs. 68,210.

V.C. 136 (Survey Vessel  
for Indian Navy) Rs. 6,50,000.

(c) The preparation of basic plans and designs needs considerable experience and accumulation of data on past ships, which the Shipyard has yet to acquire.

##### Indian Seamen

\*862. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as stated in this year's Shipping Number of the Malabar Herald Indian seamen signing under the registry of Panama, Liberia and certain other countries get one fifth of the emoluments of foreign seamen and are subjected besides to various social forms of racial discrimination;

(b) whether similar discrimination is also practised by other foreign shipping interests; and

(c) what steps are being taken to prevent it?

**The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):** (a) and (b). No, Sir. It is not true that Indian seamen in foreign vessels are getting one-fifth of the emoluments of foreign seamen. It is, however, true that Asian seamen get lower wages than the European seamen because a larger number is needed to man a vessel. Nor are we aware that Indian seamen serving in foreign ships are subjected to any racial discrimination.

(c) Does not arise.

##### Loco Running Staff of the Southern Railway

\*863. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Loco Running Staff of the Southern Railway have not been confirmed in their officiating posts for over five years;

for Indian Navy) Rs. 6,500,000.