

has since been examined and found technically acceptable. The final approval of the Planning Commission is expected shortly.

(b) It is proposed to be executed in two stages.

(c) A provision of Rs. 350 lakhs has been made in the Second Plan.

**Air Services to Tripura and Assam
via Dacca and Agartala**

*1093. **Shri Ram Garib:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian Independent Air Operator has asked for permission to operate from Calcutta to Tripura and Assam via Dacca and Agartala;

(b) whether an Indian Independent Operator has offered to run the Janata Air Service and cheaper airlifting of freight from Calcutta and Assam and Tripura;

(c) if so, whether permission has been granted; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) Yes, Sir. A non-scheduled operator has asked for permission to operate non-scheduled flights between Calcutta and Belonia via Dacca and Agartala.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). Permission to operate non-scheduled flights between Calcutta and Belonia has not been granted as the Indian Airlines Corporation, who were formerly operating a scheduled service to Belonia, are contemplating the extension of their service from Agartala to Belonia. As regards the offer to run cheaper passenger and freighter services between Calcutta and Assam and Tripura, the Indian Airlines Corporation are already operating adequate number of scheduled air services in the area and do not want an associate. The operation of scheduled air services is exclusively reserved for the Corpora-

tion under the Air Corporations Act. The independent operators are already operating non-scheduled flights in the area.

Airways (India) Limited

*1094. **Shri Halder:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 138 on the 21st November, 1958 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Airways (India) Ltd., have been allowed to carry on business along a parallel line at a lower rate of freight than that of I.A.C.;

(b) whether it is a fact that even after Airways (India) Ltd. had been taken over by the Government company carries on business under the same title as private one; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) to (c). Airways (India) Ltd., holds a non-scheduled permit which under the existing conditions for the grant of such permits entitles the Company to operate non-scheduled flights between two points not connected by the scheduled air services of the Indian Airlines Corporation. The rates charged by non-scheduled operators are not controlled by the Government.

Airways (India) Ltd., which was one of the private airlines taken over by the Indian Airlines Corporation on nationalization, holds a non-scheduled permit at present. There is no ban on such airlines engaging themselves in non-scheduled operations, subject to the conditions laid down by the Government for the grant of non-scheduled permits.

Export of Paddy and Rice from U.P.

*1095. { **Sardar Iqbal Singh:**
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:

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

(a) whether the export of paddy and rice from U.P. has been banned;