

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (d). The memorandum submitted by the Indian Shikar Outfitters Association has been considered but since the various points mentioned in the memorandum have to be settled in consultation with the various State Governments and other Ministries of the Government of India, a conference consisting of representatives of shikar agents, travel agents and State and Central Government officials concerned has been called and will be held in Delhi on the 23rd of this month. This conference will be held in compliance with the recommendations made by the Tourist Development Council.

Procurement of Rice in Andhra

*280. Shri Mahanty: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have stopped procurement of rice in Andhra,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor,

(c) whether the Government of Andhra had made further negotiations with the Centre for revising procurement price in Andhra, and

(d) if so, with what results?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

(c) and (d) As a result of discussions with the representatives of the Government of Andhra Pradesh, the maximum controlled prices of certain varieties of fine rice and paddy of that State have been raised

Kakrapara Project

*282 Shri Jadhav: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 1018 on the 11th December, 1957 and state

(a) whether the final revised estimates of the Kakrapara Project have

been submitted by the Bombay State Government;

(b) the amount spent over the project up-to-date and how much land has been irrigated; and

(c) whether the work is progressing according to schedule, and when it is likely to be completed?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Hafis Muhammad Ibrahim):

(a) No, Sir

(b) An expenditure of Rs 10.63 crores has been incurred on the project up to the end of December, 1958. The area irrigated up to end of January, 1959 was 22,756 acres

(c) The Government of Bombay have reported that work is progressing according to schedule and the project is expected to be completed during the Third Plan

"Visit India Year"

*283. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 51 on the 18th November, 1956 and state

(a) whether a final decision has since been taken on the proposal to observe 1961 as 'Visit India Year', and

(b) if so, what are the special arrangements that will be made?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Not yet. The matter is still under consideration by the Government in consultation with the various Departments of the Government of India and other agencies concerned

(b) Does not arise at present

R. M. S. Coaches

*284 Shri Goray: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that R. M. S. Coaches on some of the routes are inconvenient to the Postal Staff, and