

Concessional Postal Rates

*290. Shri P. C. Borooah: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representations from the publishers of periodical papers for concessional postal rates, and

(b) if so, the decision taken in this regard?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) Yes

(b) Final decision has not yet been taken, but in the meanwhile such publications have been allowed to avail themselves of the existing concession for a period of three months from 1st January, 1959

Import of Rice from China

*291. { Shri Assar:
Shri Rami Reddy:
Shri Ram Krishan:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chinese Government have agreed to supply rice to India,

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been signed in this regard, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) to (c) It is not in the public interest to disclose information regarding offers of foodgrains, prices, etc

Air Freight Rates

*292. { Shri Ram Krishan:
Shri D. C. Sharma.

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 587 on 1st December, 1958 and state the nature of the decision taken regarding the implementation of

recommendations made by the Air Transport Council concerning reasonable freight rates?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): The Indian Airlines Corporation are still making a critical study of the movement of freight between various points served by them and their proposals regarding revision of freight rates are likely to be finalised in the first quarter of the next financial year

Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organisation

*293. { Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Vajpayee:
Shri Rajendra Singh:
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:
Shri Shivnanjappa:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India was debarred from voting during the proceedings of the United Nations Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organisation Assembly held at London recently,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any protest was lodged in this regard,

(d) if so, the result thereof,

(e) whether India has recently become a member of this Organisation, and

(f) if so, what advantages are expected by this Membership?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (f) A statement is given below

Statement

The Government of India have ratified the Convention of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organisation subject to a reservation