

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) The financial results of working of the line have shown that even with the present inflation of 100 per cent. in the distance for charge, the line is not remunerative. It has, therefore, been decided to continue the inflation in the chargeable distance over the Fatehpur-Churu line.

Purchase of Rice from Thailand

*225. { Shri Hem Barua;
Shri Rameshwar Tantia;
Shri Tangamani:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1049 on the 5th September, 1960 and state the outcome of the negotiations which were going on with the Government of Thailand for the purchase of Thai rice?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): The negotiations have not yet been concluded.

International Air Transport Association

*226. **Shri Sadhan Gupta:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether an International Air Transport Association on passenger fares met at Cannes in France;

(b) if so, the decision taken by the conference;

(c) whether any proposal for reduction of air fares was considered by the conference;

(d) if so, what was India's stand on such proposal; and

(e) which countries supported India's stand?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) to (e). A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) The Traffic Conference of the International Air Transport Association met at Cannes in September/October, 1960, to review the fares and freight rates adopted by Airline-members of the Association.

(b) The Conference decided to retain the world-wide fare structure agreed upon at the Traffic Conference held at Paris in February-March, 1960, with the exception of a few changes in the North Pacific/Atlantic fares on certain sectors.

(c) The Conference considered proposals for the reduction of North Atlantic/Pacific fares on certain sectors.

(d) & (e). The International Air Transport Association is an unofficial body of world airlines and the Government of India or for that matter any other Government are not directly concerned with it. The Air India International had proposed reductions in the North Atlantic fares on certain sectors. This could find only limited support.

South African Horse Disease

{ Shri P. K. Deo:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:
Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
*227. { Shri Hem Barua:
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Agadi:
Shri Sugandhi:
Shri Goray:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 436 on the 16th August, 1960 and state:

(a) how the South African Horse Disease found its way into India; and

(b) the number of casualties so far, State-wise?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) Horse sickness was reported from Pakistan