

**London** it was said that these *Sealands* would be used mainly for training Indian gunners and radar operators to strike down enemy aircraft. My hon. friend has just now admitted that it is essentially a communication aircraft. How do they propose to train these?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** The hon. Member is trying to put in my mouth what he has himself said. I said, in addition to being a communication aircraft, it is to be used as a training aircraft. Because Indian pilots have had no experience of amphibian planes so far, they will be able to handle these planes and get experience about landing on sea. They will also be used for air rescue operations at sea. This unit forms only the nucleus of further development. We are making a start. It will be our attempt to get fighter aircraft also at an early date.

**Shri Jaipal Singh:** In view of the fact that *Sealands* have been there from as far back as 1948 and they have not been accepted by any Navy in this world, and are not likely to be, may I know the reasons why the Indian Navy has thought it wiser to accept *Sealands*?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** I take that information from the hon. Member. He is actually giving out information. As far as I know, they were being used elsewhere.

#### SUPPLY OF FILMS TO TROOPS

**\*400. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the usual supply of films to troops through Government was recently stopped by a decision of the Executive Committee of the Indian Motion Picture Producers' Association;

(b) if so, what was the reason therefor; and

(c) whether that decision is still in force?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** (a) to (c). The supply of films was not actually stopped, but while negotiations for a fresh contract were in progress, the Indian Motion Picture Producers' Association intimated that, in view of certain observations made by General Cariappa in a speech at Madras, the Association had decided not to enter

into any fresh agreement. The Association later reconsidered the matter and agreed to renew the agreement.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** What is the nature of the arrangement for showing films to the Indian Army officers?

**Sardar Majithia:** There are two ways. One, films are obtained direct by persons who own theatres and the other is, Government also have obtained some films and shown in forward areas.

**Shrimati Kamlendu Mati Shah:** What are the films shown and who censors the English and Hindi films for the Defence forces?

**Sardar Majithia:** So far as Defence forces are concerned, censoring does not arise because we select the films that we find suitable.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know whether any special arrangement is made for showing films to men in the operational areas?

**Sardar Majithia:** Yes, it is done.

#### FAMINE INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE

**\*401. Shri A. N. Vidyalkar:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) what were the terms of reference of the Central Famine Investigation Committee set up under the Chairmanship of Shri S. V. Ramamurthy that toured the famine-affected areas of Deccan;

(b) the total cost incurred on this Committee;

(c) the principal recommendations made by the Committee; and

(d) the recommendations that were accepted by Government and implemented?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh):** (a) No Central Famine Investigation Committee has been set up but teams of officers were sent to the famine affected areas of Mysore, Hyderabad, Bombay and Madras to study the situation on the spot. Shri S. V. Ramamurthy led the team of officers to the first three States. Their terms were to study in detail the nature and extent of the distress in the affected areas and recommend suitable measures of providing relief on a permanent and semi-permanent basis.

(b) The expenditure incurred on the visit of these official tour is met

by the individual Ministries from whom the officers have been drawn. The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table.

(c) and (d). The recommendations of the teams are under examination and a statement on the action taken will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

**Shri A. N. Vidyalkar:** May I know the estimated loss suffered by the farmers in the Deccan during this period?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** (a) I should require notice of the Question. (b) I doubt whether information would be available even in the report of these teams in the form in which the question is put. It is true that as an introduction to their recommendations they were expected to state the extent of the famine and form an appraisal of the situation.

**Shri Bogawat:** May I know the permanent or semi-permanent measures recommended by this Commission for areas which are very liable to famine in Maharashtra?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** If he is asking for details of the Report, I think it would be better to lay it on the Table of the House together with the orders on the subject when the recommendations have been considered and accepted.

**Shri Dabhi:** May I know the names of the areas in Bombay State which these officers visited?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** They went to most of the districts affected by the famine: Ahmednagar, Sholapur, Bijapur and, I think, the two Khandeshes—East Khandesh and West Khandesh—and part of Poona District. That is so far as Bombay is concerned; in Madras—the Rayalaseema Districts, Mysore (I can't quite name the area); in Hyderabad, the areas served by the Tungabhadra Project and so on.

**Shri K. Subrahmanyam:** May I know the person who headed the team of officers going to Rayalaseema and the other affected areas in Madras State?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** Mr. Bhattacharya led the team that went to Madras. Mr. Ramamurthy led the team—as I said in my answer—that visited the other parts.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know whether the team that visited

Rayalaseema has proposed any immediate measures of relief, and whether the Government have taken any steps in this connection?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** I haven't got the reports here. I can't say whether they have recommended any immediate action. As I have said, all the recommendations are under consideration.

**Shri A. N. Vidyalkar:** Were the Committees asked to study the causes and remedies of the famine or the extent of the famine?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** Principally, Sir, how relief should be provided by means of projects, and actually, in advance of the acceptance of the recommendations, sanction has been given in regard to certain works. There are about four in Mysore, one in Bombay, and one in Hyderabad. For instance, for the Tungabhadra Project, we have increased the allocation by Rs. 1 crore in order to provide relief work. In Bombay, minor irrigation schemes to the extent of Rs. 111 lakhs have been sanctioned.

**Dr. Suresh Chandra:** The Finance Minister has stated that these teams visited the Tungabhadra area in Hyderabad, whereas the most severely affected area in Hyderabad State is Aurangabad District, and I think this team has not visited that at all....

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** The team visited the area to which attention was drawn by the State Government.

**Shri Altekar:** May I know whether they have studied the present situation only, or the long-range aspect of the matter, and the causes for the famine?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** The principal purpose was to provide works for relieving distress caused by scarcity and famine. Incidentally, they might consider long-term measures, but obviously it would not be possible either for the Central Government or the State Government to start long-term development works for the purpose of providing relief, for the obvious reason that there might not be finance for continuing those works once they are started for the limited purpose of providing relief.

#### DACOITY IN DELHI

\*402. **Shri Lakshman Singh Charak:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have taken so far in checking dacoity, kidnapping, murder etc. in Delhi;