

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). According to para 3(2) of the statement on measures for strengthening of administration laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on the 10th August, 1961, "Ministries should only concern themselves with matters of policy, general supervision and enforcement of standards. Executive agencies should consequently be made stronger and given greater responsibility."

The Department of Food is concerned with acquisition, storage, preservation, movement and distribution of vast quantities of foodgrains and the mixed composition of the Headquarters organisation of this Department reflects the essentially executive, coupled with policy-making, nature of its functions. This Department have both Secretariat and executive posts to each of which are entrusted an appropriate part of its Secretariat and non-secretariat responsibilities. According to para 3(1) of the same statement laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on 10-8-1961.

"Ministries need not conform to a standard pattern of organisation. They will be free to vary it within broad limits, to introduce speed and quality of work suited to their circumstances."

The present set-up of this Department has been evolved to suit the requirements of speed and quality of work after much experimentation with various patterns of organisation and has proved most effective. No changes in the organisation are for the present contemplated though the scope for further reorganisation to promote efficiency and speed of disposal is constantly under review. The field organisations are, however, being strengthened by delegating to them enhanced powers in administrative matters generally and in operational matters particularly, and, as far as possible, only matters involving policy-making, direction and control are being looked after by the Department.

#### Starvation Deaths

1505. { Dr. P. Srinivasan:  
Shri Paramasivan:  
Shri Mohsin:

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

(a) whether any cases of starvation deaths have been reported so far in any part of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Export of Frog-Legs

1506. **Shrimati Ramdulari Sinha:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether government are aware of the fact that frog-legs are in great demand and fetch good prices in some of the foreign markets and that there is great scope for exporting frog-legs from India;

(b) whether it is a fact that frogs of suitable species which are required for this trade are found in abundance in North Bihar;

(c) if so, whether Government have under consideration any scheme to extend necessary financial and technical assistance to private entrepreneurs in North Bihar who may like to deal in this trade; and

(d) if so, the extent of such assistance to be given?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) Yes.

(b) The exportable varieties of frogs are known to occur in northern Indian States including Bihar, but the quantity available is not known, as no survey has been made. A post of Frog Development Officer has been sanctioned recently to carry out such a survey.

(c) Under the scheme for export promotion, the Marine Products Export Promotion Council, Ernakulam, gives assistance to entrepreneurs who undertake to export frog-legs.

(d) Assistance is given in the form of allotment of foreign exchange equal to 10 per cent of the value of frozen frog-legs exported for utilisation in importing various kinds of machinery for processing, consumable stores like packing material, etc.

#### Calcutta-Agartala Air Services

1507. **Shri Biren Dutta:** Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that air fare and freight charges from Calcutta to Agartala have been raised recently;

(b) the reason for such an increase;

(c) whether due to the increase in fare and freight charges essential goods required for Agartala are lying at Calcutta and vice versa; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to ease the situation?

**The Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Kanungo):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Fares and Freight rates in the Indian Airlines Corporation are based on the mileage. The fare and freight rate between Calcutta and Agartala had to be increased with effect from 15-8-1964 for freight charters, and from 15-9-1964 for scheduled services, as a result of certain changes in the routes to be followed by aircraft while flying over Pakistan territory which had the effect of increasing the route mileage between Calcutta and Agartala from 196 to 224 miles.

(c) and (d). The Indian Airlines Corporation have reported that there is no accumulation of air freight from Calcutta to Agartala lying at Calcutta. There was some quantity of tea lying at Agartala for transport to Calcutta which was cleared by the first week of September, 1964. The Central Government in the Ministry of Home

Affairs has since agreed to subsidise transport of certain specified commodities by air from Calcutta to Agartala to the extent of 6 Paise per kilo. This will mean that consignments of specified commodities booked from Calcutta to Agartala will be charged @ 54 Paise per kilo as against the revised rate of 60 Paise per kilo. This subsidised rate came into force from 2-9-1964.

#### Mangalore Harbour

1508. { **Shrimati Savitri Nigam:**  
**Shri P. C. Borooah:**  
**Shri P. R. Chakraverti:**

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) how much land has already been acquired in connection with the project for development of Mangalore Harbour into an all weather port;

(b) when it was acquired;

(c) how many families had been displaced thereby and where they have been resettled;

(d) what further action has since been taken for implementation of the port development project; and

(e) how much more land is proposed to be acquired for the project?

**The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) and (b). It is proposed to acquire an area of 1207.53 acres of land for the immediate requirements of Mangalore Harbour Project. This area has already been notified for acquisition under the Land Acquisition Act. Out of this area, an area of 43.18 acres of land was formally acquired on 29-6-1964. In addition, an area of 463.08 acres has also been handed over to the Project authorities although legal formalities in respect of this area have yet to be completed.

(c) 275 families have so far been displaced on account of land acquisition proceedings. These include 123 fishermen families and 150 other fami-