

**Means of Transport in Andaman,
Nicobar and other nearby Islands**

1817.DR. P.R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andaman, Nicobar and other nearby islands are being supplied ration and vegetables etc by ship;

(b) if so, the monthly frequency of these ships from Calcutta and Madras;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase the frequency of these ships;

(d) is so, by when ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Normally, about three sailings are provided every month to Andaman & Nicobar islands both from Calcutta and Madras.

(c) and (d). Three passenger-cum-cargo ships and one cargo ship owned by the Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. and the Andaman & Nicobar Administration are available for operation on the mainland-Andaman sector. Besides, some private shipping companies also operate cargo ships on this sector. The frequency of sailings to Andaman & Nicobar islands is expected to improve by the end of 1994 with the recommissioning of the passenger-cum-cargo vessel A.V. Akbar which is at present under-going major repairs. Further, Government has sanctioned acquisition of one new passenger-cum cargo vessel by Andaman & Nicobar Admn. for operation on mainland-Andaman service,

which is expected to be available for operation by 1997.

(e) Does not arise.

Radio Channels for Telecom Network

1818. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to use 40 additional radio channels (CBR) for the telecommunications network;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir, a total of 40 Radio channels have been earmarked for assignment to Citizen Band Radio use.

(b) Citizen Band Radio is 2-way short distance voice communication radio telephone system used for personal communication. These frequencies have been earmarked with specified technical & operational parameters for different usages like aeromodelling, mountaineering, sports, hobbies, communication in rural areas emergency services etc. Wireless licences are granted to permit such usages.

(c) Licences are already being granted to permit such usages.

Bhojpuri Programmes and Films

1819. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state: