can be given at present as to when the work will be completed.

(d) It will be of a class suitable for the operation of commercial air transport services.

TRIPURA RIFLES

- 612. Shri Biren Dutt: Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the Tripura Rifles have been disbanded;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that a large number of the disbanded soldiers have not been given any aid for rehabilitation; and
- (c) whether any scheme is under consideration to rehabilitate them?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). Nearly half the personnel have been absorbed in the Assam Rifles and the Tripura State Police. The others have been given mustering-out concessions and have mostly returned to their lands. The Chief Commissioner, Tripura, has under consideration schemes for the resettlement of the unabsorbed personnel requiring assistance.

MOBILE HOSPITALS IN TRIPURA

- 613. Shri Biren Dutt: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:
- (a) the aid given to check Malaria in hill areas of Tripura; and
- (b) whether there is any proposal to open mobile hospital in the State?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) The Government of India have sanctioned the establishment of an anti-malaria unit in Tripura State. Regular malaria control operations are going to be started soon. For this purpose a preliminary malaria survey has already been made in the State by a Malaria Survey party of the Malaria Institute of India, Delhi.

(b) Under the Tribal Welfare Scheme arrangement is being made to start a mobile dispensary fully equipped with doctor, nurse etc.

SETTLEMENT OF DISPLACED PERSONS IN TRIPURA

- 614. Shri Biren Dutt: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:
- (a) whether food production has fallen in Tripura due to litigations arising out of settlement of displaced persons on the plots of land which were under cultivation of local peasants:

- (b) if so, what steps Government contemplate to take to help grow more food in such disputed land;
- (c) whether it is a fact that a huge quantity of food production has fallen due to the resettlement policy; and
- (d) what is the quantity of foodgrains Government are providing for 1951-52 for the people of Tripura?
- The Prliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra):
 (a) and (c). No Sir. No cultivated land belonging to the local peasants has been utilised for the settlement of displaced persons in Tripura State.
 - (b) Does not arise.
- (d) 2,000 tons of wheat was allotted to Tripura in 1952. Out of this, 1000 tons have already moved and the balance has been surrendered by the Tripura Administration as not required.

LAND DISPUTES IN TRIPURA

615. Shri Biren Dutt: Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases of land dispute arising out of settlement of displaced persons which have come to the court of Tripura; and
- (b) what steps Government propose to take to check such occurrence?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) 101 cases.

(b) Disputes are mainly due to land survey not having been carried out. Survey and settlement have now been undertaken.

FISHERY DEVELOPMENT

- 616. Shri Pateria: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that an agreement has been drawn up between U.S.A. and Indian Government regarding fishery development in India;
- (b) what are the details of the agreement; and
- (c) what steps Government are taking for the purchase of the materials and how many experts are being deputed for the task?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra):

- (a) Yes.
- (b) A copy of the Indo-US Operational Agreement No. 5 on the project for the Expansion and Modernization of Marine Fisheries is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XI, annexure No. 6].
- (c) Procurement of equipment will be arranged by the India Supply

Mission and T. C. A., Washington, jointly. Government are considering deputing 4 Indian Officers dealing with

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jointly. Government are considering deputing 4 Indian Officers dealing with fisheries development work one from the Contre and three from the State—to assist in the procurement of equipment and recruitment of Technicians.

BOMBAY SUBURBAN SERVICE

617. Shri Vartak: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the passenger traffic on the Western Railway on the Bombay Suburban service has increased several times as compared with that in the pre-war days;
- (b) whether there has been proportionate increase in the number of trains; and
- (c) when the proposed quadruple overhead electric wires will be executed in place of the present double ones, between Bandra and Borivli on the Western Railway?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) Yes. The passenger traffic of the Bombay Suburban Section of the Western Railway in 1950-51 was slightly more than three times the traffic in 1938-39.

- (b) The number of trains has increased but a proportionate increase is not feasible. The cut in electric supply has made it necessary for the Railway to keep the number of trains below the maximum otherwise feasible.
- (c) Electrification of the quadruple track is expected to be completed between Bandra and Andheri in about seven months and from Andheri to Borivli in about eight months thereafter.

CUSTOMS DUTY

618. Shri H. G. Vaishnav: Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

- (a) when the process of abolition of customs duty in Hyderabad State would be completed;
- (b) whether there will be any other taxation in that State to make up the deficiency of the customs income; and
- (c) if the answer be in the affirmative what will be the nature of such taxation and the estimated annual income thereof?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) By the end of the financial year 1953-54.

(b) and (c). The question whether the loss of revonue from the abolition of customs duty should be made up by other taxation measures is entirely a matter for the State Government to consider in the light of their finances and local conditions. Generally the stepping up of the Sales Tax has been recommended for making up the deficiency. The increased yield of Sales Tax for the year 1952-53 is estimated at Rs. 150 lakhs.

NATIONAL COLOURS FOR INDIAN SHIPS

619. Shri S. C. Samanta: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that white ensign of the National Colours for Indian ships has undergone a change;
- (b) if so, who changed it and when it has been introduced;
- (c) the descriptions of red ensign and blue ensign; and
- (d) what are the regulations governing the use of the blue ensign?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) and (b). Yes. The Indian Naval White Ensign which was introduced on 26th January 1950 was changed very slightly in size from March, 1951. The change was effected under the orders of the Ministry of Defence.

(c) and (d). A copy of the Government of India Ministry of Transport Notification, No. 73-MA(2)/49 dated 22-1-1952, which describes the Red Ensign and the Blue Ensign, and prescribes the regulations governing the use of the latter, is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XI, annexure No. 7].

This Notification was published in the Gazette of India of the 2nd February, 1952.

COTTON PRODUCTION

- 620. Shri S. C. Samanta: (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what are the All-India first, second, third and fourth estimates of cotton with area and quantity of production (state-wise)?
- (b) What is the basis of official estimates and trade estimates of cotton and how much do they differ?
- (c) How much has been spent on Grow More Cotton in each of the years from 1947-48 to 1951-52?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra):
(a) A statement showing the available data for 1951-52 is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XI, annexure No. 8]