

increase production of foodgrains in Tripura:—

- (i) Chemical fertilizers, improved seeds and bonemeal are being distributed among cultivators at subsidised rates.
- (ii) Pumping sets are being let out to cultivators at a concessional rate. The sets are also sold to them at cost price which is payable in easy instalments.
- (iii) Seed farms have been opened for the multiplication of improved varieties of seed for distribution to cultivators.
- (iv) Cultivators are being educated in improved methods of cultivation and use of local manurial resources.
- (v) Loans are being given to cultivators for increasing food production.

(b) An Agricultural school has been established to impart training in improved agriculture to sons of cultivators. Training of farm leaders in approved methods of agriculture is also being organised in the Development Blocks to ensure increased food production through rural leaders.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

#### **Ship "ALLEGEA" in Distress**

**1086. Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a ship named "Allegea" which sprang a leak in one of its holds on the high seas about 450 miles west of Bombay transmitted as S.O.S. for help to save the life of the crew; and

(b) if so, what steps were taken by the Indian Marine Department or any Indian ship to save the said ship?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). It is a fact that the ship "Allegra" of Panama Nationality (and not 'Allegea') sprang a leak in No. 1 hold while she was about 700 miles from Bombay and sent out a general distress message for assistance to save the crew. The need for taking any steps by the Mercantile Marine Department or by an Indian ship for the rescue of the crew did not however arise, as at about the same time another message was received stating that the British Ship R.M.S. "Carthage" on her way to Aden was proceeding to the scene and that she did actually rescue 23 out of 24 crew on the 21st July, 1958. The fate of the missing member of the crew is not known.

#### **Engines under District Mechanical Engineer, Samastipur**

**1087. Shri Rajendra Slugh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of engines in District Samastipur (N.E. Rly.) which are not provided with dynamos, vacuum gauze and vacuum combination;

(b) whether these engines are put on line without proper repairing;

(c) whether these engines were not attended to though several drivers booked such engines for repairs; and

(d) whether it is not in contravention of safety rules?