

Tubewells Organisation drilled 15 exploratory bores of which only 11 yielded satisfactory discharge of water.

Air Service to Baroda

911. Shri Manibhai J. Patel: Will the Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that air flights to Baroda have been suspended;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and when the flights will be resumed;

(c) whether the Air strip of Baroda is not in working order; and

(d) if so, the action taken in the matter?

The Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation (Dr. Karan Singh): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d). The airstrip at Baroda has become unserviceable for operations. Estimates for improving the runway have been sanctioned and the work awarded this month. The work is expected to be completed in about 18 months time. The question of resumption of air services through Baroda will be examined as soon as the work is completed.

Area under Sugarcane Cultivation

912. Shri Nitiraj Singh Chaudhary: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the area under sugarcane cultivation, State-wise, during the years 1965-66, 1966-67 and 1967-68;

(b) the sugar production, State-wise, during 1965-66 and 1966-67, and

(c) the quantity of sugar likely to be produced during 1967-68, State-wise?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) and (b). The

required information for 1965-66 and 1966-67 is given below. Estimates of area under sugarcane during 1967-68 are not yet available:

State	Area under sugarcane (000' acres)		Total production of sugar (000' tonnes)	
	1965-66	1966-67 (2nd East)	1965-66	1966-67 (up to 15-5-67)
U.P.	3660	3059	1370	714
Bihar	420	368	371	210
Punjab	887	887	159	85
Assam	74	75	9	6
W. Bengal	97	81	13	8
Orissa	115	129	11	9
M. P.	169	155	36	7
Rajasthan	140	119	18	8
Maharashtra	387	370	764	620
Gujarat	87	78	55	40
Andhra	295	211	294	146
Madras	213	124	228	159
Mysore	190	183	145	78
Kerala	23	21	23	8
Pondicherry	5	Not available	12	7

(c) It is too early to give any estimate of production of sugar during 1967-68.

Relief to Famine Areas in Bihar and U.P.

913. Shri P. Parthasarathy:
Shri R. D. Reddy:

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

(a) the foreign countries which have extended sympathy and help to give relief to the famine affected areas in Bihar and U.P.; and

(b) if so, the total assistance received in rupee value from abroad?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the

House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-447/67] showing the gifts aid, together with their rupee value, from foreign countries/international organisations/private agencies in foreign countries to the Government of India for relief of food scarcity caused by the drought of the year 1966-67. The aid received is for relief in the scarcity affected areas of the country including the areas in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh.

Patna-Madhuban and Patna-Saharsa Air Services

914. **Shri Shiva Chandra Jha:** Will the Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no regular air service from Patna to Madhuban and from Patna to Saharsa; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation (Dr. Karan Singh): (a) and (b). There is only a fair weather air strip, 1600 feet long at Madhuban and a PSP (Pierced Steel Planks) air strip 2400 feet long at Saharsa, both of which are not suitable for operation of regular air services, even with Dakotas.

कत द्वारा गेहूँ का बिना जाना

915. श्री रामावतार झाकनी : क्या खास तथा कुपि मंडी बहू बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या इस सरकार ने बिहार और उत्तर प्रदेश के कुपिबस्तत लोगों में मुफ्त बाँटने के लिये 2 लाख टन गेहूँ बिना है ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि भारत सरकार ने कभी एक उत्तमो कभी बाँटा है ;

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो इसके क्या कारण है ; और

(घ) कलकत्ता का डिप्टर इस संबंध में क्या कार्यवाही करने का है ?

खास, कुपि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहायक योजनाओं में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री रामावतार झाकनी) : (क) से (घ). इस सरकार ने देश के कमी वाले क्षेत्रों में संकट कम करने के लिये 2 लाख मीटर टन गेहूँ का उपहार दिया है। इस गेहूँ को केवल बिहार और पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश की प्रभावित जनसंख्या में मुफ्त वितरण प्रथमा वितरण करने की कोई कर्त नहीं है। इस से प्राप्त गेहूँ को अन्य स्त्रियों से प्रायतित गेहूँ के स्टॉक में बिना दिया गया है और सामान्य मार्गों से उसका वितरण किया गया है। तथापि, इस गेहूँ का मूल्य कमी सहायता और सामीय विकास निधि में जमा किया जायेगा।

Indian Tourist Office, London

916. **Shri P. K. Ghosh:**

Shri Kartik Uraon:

"Will the Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Tourist Office in London has offered to a British Publicity Agency the job of promoting India's tourist attraction in England;

(b) whether the said Agency has accepted the offer; and

(c) if so, terms and conditions settled?

The Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation (Dr. Karan Singh): (a) Presumably the reference is to the proposed appointment of Public Relations Agency in London to assist the Government of India Tourist Office there. No final decision has been made so far.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Vellore Airways

917. **Shri G. Kancherla:** Will the Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Vellore Air Field is situated