

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 प्रायः 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

in Purum, Madras State is not being used;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is a proposal to close the Airport; and

(d) if not, the steps taken to develop the same?

The Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation (Dr. Karan Singh): (a) to (d). Indian Airlines Corporation have no plans to operate scheduled air services through Vellore in the immediate future and there is no proposal to develop the fair weather strip at Vellore, now being used by the Madras Flying Club training aircraft for cross country flying.

#### Paradeep Port

918. Shri A. Diga:  
Shri F. K. Deo:  
Shri K. P. Singh Deo:  
Shri Dhirendranath:  
Shri G. C. Naik:

Will the Minister of Transport and Shipping be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the works of Paradeep Port project included in the first phase of the work have been completed; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Transport and Shipping (Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao): (a) and (b). When the port project was taken over by the Government of India, the programme of work was reviewed and certain items of work deleted or modified. The approved programme has been so phased as to enable the Port to handle a traffic of two million tonnes of iron ore annually. Accordingly, the following main works have been completed and the port has been in commission since November, 1968:—

(i) Dredging of a lagoon with approach and entrance channels;

(ii) Two breakwaters to protect the lagoon and the approach channels;

(iii) Iron ore berth with a mechanised ore-handling plant;

(iv) Minimum requirements of buildings for office and staff.

2. Contracts have also been awarded for the construction of a trestle for the sand pump-cum-shore based dredger, a reclamation berth for the dredger and a slipway for the repair of floating craft. These works are not connected with the immediate operation of the port. However, all these are expected to be completed by the end of the current financial year.

3. Orders have been placed for a dredger, two harbour tugs and one sand pump-cum-shore based dredger. These are expected to be delivered by the end of 1967-68. The delay in the procurement of these items was mainly due to foreign exchange difficulties.

#### Wheat requirement of Orissa

919. Shri A. Diga:  
Shri Dhirendranath:  
Shri F. K. Deo:  
Shri K. P. Singh Deo:  
Shri G. C. Naik:  
Shri Chintamani Panigrahi:

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

(a) the quantity of wheat demanded from the Centre by the Government of Orissa every month and supplied to Orissa by the Central Government every month since March, 1967; and

(b) in case the whole quantity demanded by the State of Orissa was not supplied, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation (Shri Anveshik Ghosh): (a) and (b). Orissa Government requested for an allotment of 16,000 tonnes per month. In view of low arrivals and the need to maintain minimum supplies to the sparsely-affected areas, Orissa could be supplied only 2,000 tonnes in March.