

2nd May, 1967 was detained in the Port for about ten days;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of days for which the Vessels normally halt at Port Blair; and

(d) the extra detention charges paid by Government on account of enforced haltag of 'M.V. Nicobar' during her voyage ex-Port Blair on 2nd May, 1967?

The Minister of Transport and Shipping (Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The ship was detained for about 3 to 4 days on account of the rush of passengers and to provide transport facilities for teachers and their families entitled to free passage to the main-land during the vacations.

(c) Normally the stay of the ship is 8 to 10 days depending on the nature and quantity of the cargo to be handled and the weather.

(d) The detention charges, if any, to be paid in this case will be known only after the receipt of annual accounts for the operation of the vessels. This will be rendered by the Shipping Corporation of India at the end of the current financial year.

Scheduled I. A. C. flights to Port Blair from Calcutta

956. **Shri K. E. Ganesh:**

Shri R. K. Sinha:

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

(a) whether the Indian Airlines Corporation 'Skymaster' on its scheduled flight to Port Blair on the 15th May, 1967 had to return to Calcutta from near Port Blair due to cloud formation over Port Blair;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Indian Air Force Terminal Base at Car Nicobar could not be contacted by the aircraft;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government propose to instruct the Indian Air Force Ter-

minal Base at Car Nicobar to keep watch on the movement of the Indian Airlines Corporation aircraft on its scheduled flights to Port Blair and Calcutta?

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

(c) and (d). As there was a thunderstorm and heavy rain at Port Blair and also as the hill tops on the approach to Port Blair aerodrome were covered by clouds, it was not possible for the aircraft to land there. The pilot tried to contact Car Nicobar to obtain the weather conditions but he could not do so. Car Nicobar has been designated as alternate airport for Port Blair for I.A.C. scheduled flights. Arrangements already exist for Car Nicobar airfield to remain open one hour before the expected time of arrival and one hour after the expected time of departure of the aircraft. The circumstances in which the pilot was unable to contact Car Nicobar on that particular day, are being looked into.

Andaman Labour Force Co-operative Society

957. **Shri K. R. Ganesh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andaman Labour Force Co-operative Society is not functioning now;

(b) whether the accounts of the said society have been audited;

(c) the main findings of the auditors;

(d) whether large number of shareholders have not been given their share-money back; and

(e) if so, the number of such shareholders and the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.