

**The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy):** (a) and (b). The Indian Air lines Corporation has been making efforts to provide housing accommodation to its employees but due to various reasons much progress could not be made particularly because of non-availability of land.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Corporation propose to construct houses in the first instance at the four main stations, namely, Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. In Delhi a piece of land was secured as early as 1960 but it was acquired by the Delhi Administration under the Master Plan. After considerable effort the Corporation have been able to secure allotment of 27.2 acres of land in Munirka village and they have deposited with the land and Development Office, New Delhi on 29th December, 1965 a sum of Rs. 67,46,990 for the purpose. They are now awaiting possession of land.

At Calcutta also for various reasons sites originally selected had to be given up. Now a beginning has been made with construction of quarters in the vacant portion of the land obtained from Director General of Civil Aviation.

At Bombay land has been leased from the Director General of Civil Aviation and administrative approval to the project at a cost of Rs. 150 lakhs has been accorded.

At Madras, land measuring 16.9 acres has been purchased from the State Government and detailed estimates for the construction of a housing colony are being prepared.

#### **Ferry Service between Rameshwaram and Talaimannar**

**1267. Shri Umanath:  
Shri Balakrishnan:**

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

(a) whether any proposal to start a ferry service between Rameshwaram

and Talaimannar is under consideration of the Shipping Corporation of India;

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and  
(c) the details of the proposal.

**The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy):** (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) The main purpose of the proposed service is to establish shortest possible link by sea between India and Ceylon.

(c) Initially, the service will be bi-weekly.

#### **Basic Slag for Agricultural Crops in Kerala**

**1268. Shri Umanath:** Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether trials of application of basic slag for various agricultural crops in Kerala had resulted in increasing the per acre yield;

(b) if so, the various items of crops to which it was applied;

(c) the extent of increase in per acre yield for the respective crop;

(d) whether Government have permitted the import of the basic slag from West Germany for use in Kerala;

(e) if so, the quantity permitted to be imported;

(f) whether any foreign exchange is involved; and

(g) if not, the basis and terms under which the import is allowed?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra):** (a) to (c). Yes. Certain demonstration trials were conducted by the Thomas Khad Scheme of India, with Thomas Phosphate, commonly known as Basic Slag (supplied as a free sample). The