

by the Project Authorities becomes available,

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

(e) Further action on the Project will be taken on receipt of the technical report and the estimates for the Project.

#### Paradeep Port

116. Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:  
Shri Linga Reddy:

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

(a) Whether the Paradeep Port has been completed to be ready to receive ships;

(b) whether any arrangement is being made to unload ships carrying foodgrains from U.S.A. at Paradeep; and

(c) if so, when this work is likely to start?

The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) Yes. The first stage of the development of Paradeep Port Project to handle two million tonnes of iron ore is nearing completion.

(b) and (c). Arrangements for receiving foodgrain vessels at Paradeep Port are under consideration. It is necessary to acquire two ocean going tugs for piloting the food ships into the Port. The tugs already ordered for Paradeep Port have not so far been completed and may be ready shy by the end of the year. Therefore, some interim arrangements are being considered. The Port will be used for handling food ships as soon as the tugs are available.

#### Paradeep Port

117. Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:  
Will the Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints about the violation of labour laws and irregular discharge

from service of the employees of Paradeep Port by the Chief Engineer, Paradeep Port;

(b) if so, the action taken and the nature of grievances;

(c) whether recognition has been given to any labour union at the Port for promotion of better and healthy labour management relationship; and

(d) if not, why?

The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) and (b). With the completion of the first phase of the Paradeep Port Project, it became necessary to retrench the surplus staff of the Project. Certain complaints were received that the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, were not being complied with by the Project authorities while serving notices of retrenchment on the surplus staff. The matter was examined on a reference from the Project authorities and they have been advised suitably.

(c) and (d). The Paradeep Port Project is now a Central Government Department. The question of recognition of a union of the employees of the Port Project is being examined with reference to the relevant rules of the Government of India.

#### Import of Foodgrains

118. Shri Shiv Charan Gupta: Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) the annual imports of foodgrains in the country in the Third Five Year Plan;

(b) how much subsidy Government have been paying every year in their distribution; and

(c) how much subsidy was paid in the last year of Second Five Year Plan?