

1966-67. The programme will continue during the Fourth Plan period.

(b) The High-Yielding Varieties Programme aims at achieving a rapid "break-through" in agricultural productivity and seeks to maximise production by using the newly identified and evolved high-yielding strains of paddy, wheat, jowar, bajra and maize which are responsive to high doses of fertilization. The varieties included in the programme are Taichung Native-I, Taichung 65, Tainan 3 and ADT 27 for paddy, the Mexican Varieties viz. Sonora 64 and Lerma Rojo for wheat and the hybrids of maize, jowar and bajra. The target of coverage of area under the programme during the Fourth Five Year Plan period is 32.5 million acres which is estimated to give an additional production of 25.5 million tonnes of foodgrains. So far as 1966-67 is concerned, the target of likely coverage during the kharif season is about 2.10 million acres and during the Rabi season 3.75 million acres. The supply of inputs like, seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, etc. and credit has been assured to the farmers for the success of the programme. The State Governments are also taking steps to strengthen the field extension agency through appointment of additional staff at the district and block levels to provide intensive technical guidance and assistance to the farmers in the adoption of improved technology and to ensure closer supervision over field operations.

I.A.C. Return Journey Booking Concessions

2319. **Shri Narasimha Reddy:** Will the Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism be pleased to state:

(a) whether concessions on return bookings on I.A.C. flights have been discontinued;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the savings affected since the discontinuance of the concessions?

The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) Yes, Sir. Effective from 1-4-1966 the return and round trip rebate on non-international flights of I.A.C. has been withdrawn.

(b) The following considerations weighed in coming to this decision:—

(i) Practically no domestic carrier elsewhere allows such rebate.

(ii) Fare calculations have been simplified.

(iii) In the case of re-routing after partial travel or before the commencement of journey, fare re-calculations have been very much simplified.

(iv) Refund to passengers do not involve any calculations as was required previously in the case of cancellation of return journeys.

(v) It was observed that quite a large number of round trip or circle trip bookings were cancelled after partial performance involving grant of refunds in respect of cancellation of return journey or segments of circle trip journeys not performed.

(c) The withdrawal of the concession was estimated to give increased revenue to the extent of Rs. 40.00 lakhs annually. Actual effect can be known only after some time.

Violation of Paddy Procurement Order in Bihar

2320. **Shri Kishen Pattnayak:**
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:

Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reports that hundreds of prosecutions against farmers have been sanctioned by the Government of Bihar for their having violated the Paddy Procurement Order;

(b) if so, the break-up of the figures, District-wise;

(c) the lowest and highest (in acres) land holdings of the farmers to be so prosecuted; and

(d) whether these prosecutions are permissible under the Defence of India Rules?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shinde): (a): Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6784/66].

(c) The minimum acreage of farmers prosecuted is about 13 acres. No maximum acreage limit has been prescribed for prosecution.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Consumer Articles to be obtained as Levy

2321. Shri M. K. Kumaran: Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have a scheme to obtain consumer articles as levy from the manufacturers for supply to consumers through co-operative stores at reasonable prices; and

(b) if so, the stage at which the matter is at present?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra): (a) and (b). No, Sir. No such levy scheme has been thought of. Manufacturers are being asked to make supplies to consumer cooperatives at rates nor-

mally charged by them at the first point of distribution. They are generally agreeing to do so. In case reasonable settlements are not arrived at through negotiations the provision of the Essential Commodities Act may have to be invoked.

I.A.C. Scholarship Scheme

**2322. Shri Buta Singh:
Shri Narasimha Reddy:**

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

(a) whether the Indian Airlines Corporation has recently introduced an educational scholarship scheme for the benefit of the children of its employees; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Under the Educational Scholarship Scheme of the Indian Airlines Corporation, scholarships are granted to children of employees drawing a basic pay upto Rs. 1000/- p.m. The scheme is designed to assist children who show promise in their school or University career. The details of the scheme are as under:—

Quantum of Assistance

(i) For Children studying in the middle standard a lump sum grant of Rs. 100/- per annum will be made of which Rs. 75/- will be paid at the commencement of the academic year and Rs. 25/- during the second term.

(ii) For children studying in the Higher Secondary stage a sum of Rs. 150/- per annum will be paid in two instalments:—

Rs. 100/- at the commencement of the academic year.

Rs. 50/- during the second term.