

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to keep the passengers' service running?

**The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Bombay-Agra National Highway**

99. **Shri M. L. Jadhav:** Will the Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism be pleased to state:

(a) the places where land has been acquired for diversion on the Bombay-Agra National Highway;

(b) when these diversions are likely to be completed; and

(c) whether any works of railway level crossings have been taken up?

**The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy):** (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7151/66].

**Rice Shortage in Fair Price Shops in Goa**

100. **Shri P. Kunhan:**  
**Shri Imbichibava:**  
**Shri M. N. Swamy:**

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

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item in the Times of India (Delhi Edition) of the 7th October, 1966 which stated that there was no rice in Fair Price Shops in Goa and the cardholders had to return empty handed for five days in a row;

(b) whether Government have verified the report and if so, the findings thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there was delay in sending monthly quota of rice to Goa and that the Government of Goa asked the Central

Government to expedite the supply of rice; and

(d) if so, the reasons for the delay?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Govinda Menon):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The report was found to be correct.

(c) and (d). Supplies of rice to Goa are not arranged on a strictly monthly basis. The quantity allotted to Goa so far has been more than the proportionate share of what could be promised for them during the year on the basis of availabilities. There had, however, been some delay in despatches of the latest allocations and this was caused by the delay in the arrival of ships carrying rice from abroad from which the quotas were intended to be supplied.

**Public Road Transport Services**

101. **Shri D. B. Raju:**  
**Shri Maheshwar Naik:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Planning Commission has suggested to the State Governments that public road transport services should be entrusted to Corporations; and

(b) if so, the extent to which the suggestions made by the Planning Commission have so far been implemented by the States?

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

(b) Road Transport Corporations have been set up in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Mysore, Punjab (Pepsu and Kulu regions), Rajasthan and West Bengal (North Bengal area and Calcutta city). The question of setting up such Corporation is also under the consideration of the Governments of Assam, Orissa and Tripura.