

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) No Sir

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Indian Airlines Corporation

*1072. **Shri Baburao Patel:** Will the Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that the TWA, Alitalia BOAC, Lufthansa Air India airlines show consistent profits every year even though they face severe competition and are run on commercial lines, and

(b) if so, why the Indian Airlines Corporation does not make any profits in spite of the fact that it carries over 100 per cent load regularly and runs as a monopoly concern without competition?

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

(b) The Indian Airlines Corporation had made profits during the years 1959-60 to 1965-66. However, they incurred a loss during the year 1966-67 which was due largely to the effect of devaluation and increased wage bill

Ration System in Drought-Hit States

*1073 **Shri D N Patodia .**
Shri R Barua
Shri Marandi .

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press reports that the ration system in foodgrains, in the drought-hit States is on the verge of break down due to the non-availability of the requisite quantity of the commodities there, and

(b) the steps taken by Government to supply to those States the minimum quantity of the foodgrains to maintain the minimum ration supply there?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) Yes, Sir Government have seen the press reports relating to Bihar.

(b) The Central Government are arranging supplies of foodgrains to the drought-hit States to the maximum extent possible within the limited availability, keeping in view the minimum needs of others

Directive to Drought-affected States to Write off Loans Outstanding against Farmers

*1074 **Shri R Barua :**
Shri D N Patodia .

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether the Central Government have asked the State Governments to write off loans outstanding against the farmers for purchasing seeds and fertilisers in the areas where severe drought conditions are prevailing, and

(b) if so the reaction of the State Governments thereto?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) No such direction has been given by the Central Government to the drought-affected States. The question of writing off of the outstanding loans against the farmers is primarily a matter for consideration of the respective State Governments

(b) Does not arise

Punjab Government's Offer of Surplus Wheat for Scarcity Areas

*1075 **Shri Marandi .**
Shri Kameshwar Singh :
Shri Prakash Vir Shastri .
Shri Shiv Kumar Shastri .
Shri Ram Avtar Sharma :
Shri Y S. Kushwah :
Shri Hukam Chand Kachwal .
Shri Alam Das :
Shri Bhagvir Singh Shastri .
Shri Arjun Singh Bhadoria :
Shri Ramji Ram :
Shri J. Sundar Lal :
Dr. Surya Prakash Puri :

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that Punjab