

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation (Shri Anna-sahib 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 Anna-sahib 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 Out-Standing 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 Anna-sahib 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 Atam Das :

Shri Raghuvir 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

Government have offered to supply surplus food stocks to the scarcity areas of Bihar, Himachal Pradesh and West Bengal,

(b) if so, the quantity thereof and whether the Centre has agreed and asked the Punjab Government to do so, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) and (b) Punjab Government have promised to supply 6 lakh tonnes of foodgrains to deficit States during the current year and when quantities of different foodgrains become actually available and are offered for immediate export, allocations are issued. Allocations made so far to Bihar, Himachal Pradesh and West Bengal are as follows

(Figures in tonnes)

	Bihar	Himachal Pradesh	West Bengal
Rice (whole)		3,000	9,200
Broken rice	1,100		10,000
Wheat		10,000	20,000
Barley	10,000		2,500
Gram & Gram dhal	100	25	1,050

(c) Does not arise

Monthly Quota of Foodgrains for UP

*1076 Shri Yashpal Singh ·
Shri Marandi ·
Shri Sarjoo Pandey :

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether the Food Minister of Uttar Pradesh has met him for an increase in its monthly quota of imported grain from 120,000 tonnes at present to 200,000 tonnes, and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken on the request?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) The Food Minister of Uttar Pradesh did meet the Union Minister for Food and Agriculture and asked for an increase in the monthly quota of imported foodgrains

(b) Some increase in the quota originally allotted for July is being made

Diversion of Food Carrying Ships

*1077 Shri Kameshwar Singh ·
Shri Sequeira ·
Shri D C Sharma :

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have requested the supplying countries to divert to India from other buyers, food-carrying ships on the high seas to bridge the supply gap arising out of the West Asia situation, and

(b) the names of the countries to whom such requests were made with the date of each request and their reaction thereto?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) and (b) A request was made to Australia on the 9th June, 1987 for diversion to India of two wheat ships on the high seas and two ships which were loading wheat for other destinations. The Government were subsequently informed that the proposed diversions were not possible

Artificial Rain Making

*1078. Shri Shiva Chandra Jha · Will the Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the experiments conducted by the National Physical Laboratory in artificial rain making have shown "encouraging results",

(b) if so, the results achieved,