

dredging work at Paradeep Port is in progress. After dredging a part of the sand trap and the channel before the on-set of monsoon, the firm's dredger is now working on the widening of the Turning Circle. The sand trap was expected to be completed before the onset of monsoon; however, this could not be done. As soon as the widening of the Turning Circle is completed and the monsoons are over, the work on sand trap will be resumed. According to present indications, the entire work is expected to be completed by the end of this year.

173. [Transferred to the 31st July, 1969.]

NEW SEA PORT

174. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to make Cauveri Poompathinam a new seaport for shipping commodities in the Fourth Plan period; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SARDAR IQBAL SINGH) : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

AERODROME AT TUTICORIN

175. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct an aerodrome at Tuticorin; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) : (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

HOTELS IN TAMIL NADU

176. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the details of the aid given by the Government of India for encouraging the hotel industry in the State of Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) : Although no direct financial aid by way of grants is given to the hotel industry, the Government have offered a number of incentives to the private sector to encourage the flow of capital into the hotel industry. These include substantial tax reliefs; liberal depreciation rates and development rebate; a Hotel Development Loan Scheme for financial assistance and priority consideration for the needs of the hotel industry. These incentives are available to hotel projects approved by the Government all over the country, including the State of Tamil Nadu.

EXPORT TRADE THROUGH PORTS

177. SHRI CHITTA BASU :

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the volume of export and import trades which passed through (i) Calcutta, (ii) Bombay and (iii) Madras ports during the years 1965-66, 1966-67, 1967-68 and 1968-69;

(b) what is the percentage of these transactions, separately, to the total trade of the country, and

(c) what are Indian ships' share in the total trade (import and export to be separately shown) ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SARDAR IQBAL SINGH) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and would be placed on the Table of the Sabha.