

†[THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE): (a) About Rs. 95,000.

(b) As given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Attempts have been made to repair locally with second hand or fabricated parts. Where this has not been possible attempts have been made to obtain spares from abroad. A few spares have been received recently and it is hoped to put to use shortly some of the items of machinery now lying idle.

STATEMENT

Machinery and equipment lying idle at Iari for want of imported components

Sl. No.	Particulars of Machinery/equipment	Value	Date since when lying idle
		Rs.	
1	Land Master Tractors (20 Nos.)	30,000.00	4 years
2	Allis Chalmers Tractor	12,000.00	4 years
3	Farmall Tractor	11,000.00	6 months
4	Gravelly Tractor	4,000.00	4 years
5	Oliver 77	11,000.00	4 years
6	Ferguson TED 20	10,000.00	6 months
7	Centrifuge super	15,225.00	22-7-65
8	Freeze drying Apparatus	1,680.00	14-10-65

AIR SERVICE THROUGH BHUJ AIR-FIELD

414. DR. B. N. ANTANI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state whether Bhuj Air-field which was temporarily suspended for repairs and expansion is now ready for civil traffic and if so, the steps taken by Government for resumption of air traffic through this air-field?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): The airfield at Bhuj has now been declared fit and the Indian Airlines Corporation will commence operating service to that place with effect from 6th, June, 1967.

WORK ON BUCKINGHAM CANAL AND COOUM RIVER

415. SHRI T. V. ANANDAN: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the dredging and deepening work of the Buckingham Canal and the Cooum river in Madras State for providing a useful waterway communication between Andhra and Madras has been delayed for want of concurrence of the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING (PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO): Inland Waterways fall in the State sector and programmes for their development have been included in the draft Fourth Five-Year Plan.

At the time of formulation of various new water-transport schemes for inclusion in the 4th Plan, the Government of Madras put forward proposals for carrying out improvements to Buckingham Canal at a total cost of Rs. 470 lakhs. These proposals were scrutinised in the Inland Water-Transport Directorate and the State Government were advised to make an assessment of the traffic potentialities of the Buckingham Canal in view of the large outlay proposed for its improvement. The State Government have constituted a Special Committee to go into the traffic potentialities of the Waterways and its final report is awaited. Andhra Pradesh Government have also put forward proposals for improving the portion of the Buckingham Canal lying in their State at a cost of Rs. 130 lakhs. They were also requested to submit a project report with cost benefit statements. This report has not yet been received.