

miles at Arbelia in the Bashirhat sub-Division of 24 Parganas as a part of the country-wise grow more food drive; and

(b) if so, whether the Government have come to any decision in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI S. D. MISRA) : (a) No scheme for de-watering by pumping of 50 square miles at Arbelia in Bashirhat sub-Division has been sent to Government of India by the Government of West Bengal. However, information is available only in regard to Sealdahgong Scheme which serves Arbelia area. The State Government sponsored a scheme in November 1963 for the drainage of Sealdahgong Basin in the district of 24 Parganas at an estimated cost of Rs. 114-65 lakh

(b) The scheme has been approved in September, 1964 *i.e.*, during the Third Plan under the flood control programme and is under execution.

EXPORT OF SUGAR

*271. SHRI U. S. DUGAL : Will the Minister of FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to export more sugar in 1966-67 as compared to the last year for earning foreign exchange;

(b) if so, whether Government have entered into agreements with any country for the exports of sugar; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, the total amount of foreign exchange to be earned thereby ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Indian Sugar Mills Association, Calcutta has been authorised to enter into contracts for ex-

port of 4.07 lakh tonnes of sugar during 1966 as under :—

Country	Quantity (Lakh tonnes)
U.S.A.	0.60
U.K. and Canada	1.49
Malaysia	0.78
Other destinations	1.20
TOTAL	4.07

lei Export to U.S.A. will be on the basis of the average of the Contract 7 Spot quotations of New York Coffee and Sugar Exchange Inc., during a specified period. Export of 0.25 lakh tonnes to U.K. will be at the negotiated price under the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement, which is £ 47.5 per long ton. Balance exports will be on price fixing basis linked to the average of London Daily Price during the specified periods. The shipment period is during January to September 1966. The foreign exchange earnings will depend on the level of international price of during the pricing periods.

S DUE TO AIR ACCIDENTS

*272. SHRI MULKA GOVINDA J REDDY : SHRI JAGANNATH L PRASAD PAHADIA :

Will the Minister of TRANSPORT, AVIATION, SHIPPING AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of aircraft of the Air India and the IAC which were involved in accidents since 24th January, 1966; and

(b) the total loss in human lives and property due to these accident

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT, AVIATION, SHIPPING AND TOURISM (SHRI N. SANJIVA REDDY) : (a) One Air-India aircraft and four Indian Airlines Corporation aircraft were involved in accidents since 24th January, 1966. In addition, one Dutch registered aircraft operated by the Indian Airlines Corporation on charter was also involved in an accident during this period.

(b) One hundred and fifty-six persons lost their lives in these accidents. Three out

of the six aircraft involved in the accident were a total loss. The other three aircraft were substantially damaged. All the aircraft had been fully insured and there is no financial loss to the Corporations.

PARADEEP PORT

208. SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT, AVIATION, SHIPPING AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the expenditure incurred by the State Government in connection with the construction of Para-deep Port has been reimbursed by the Central Government after the Port has been taken over the by them ;

(b) if so, what is the amount paid and when the payment was made;

(c) whether accounts were got audited by the Central Government and whether there are any comments about wasteful expenditure;

(d) since it is going to be the only major deep sea port, whether ing arrangements are expected adequate; and

(e) what is the present capacity of the Port ?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT, AVIATION, SHIPPING AND TOURISM (SHRI N. SANJIVA REDDY) : (a) The Central Government have not reimbursed the expenditure incurred by the State Government on the construction of Paradeep Port. But loans have been advanced to the State Government to the extent of the expenditure incurred by the State Government on the development of the Port upto 31st May 1965 *i.e.* the date of its taking over by the Central Government.

(b) A sum of Rs. 15-69 crores has been paid as loan as set out below :—

- (1) Rs. 6 crores sanctioned on the 6th March, 1965 towards the expenditure on the project during 1964-65.
- (2) Rs. 1 crore sanctioned on the 24th June, 1965 towards the expenditure on the project during 1965-66.

(3) Rs. 0-69 crore sanctioned on the 16th July, 1965 for expenditure on the project during 1965-66.

(4) Rs. 8 crores sanctioned on the 14th December, 1965 for expenditure on the project during - 1961-62 to 1963-64.

The loans have been in the form of miscellaneous development loans repayable in seven annual equated instalments of principal and interest commencing from the fourth anniversary of the drawal of the loan. The interest on the loans is to be paid annually till the payment of the equated instalment commences.

(c) All Government expenditure is subject to audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General. No separate audit was arranged at the time of taking over of the project from the State Government.

(d) The Port at present has one mechanised ore berth. This is adequate for handling the traffic of two million tonnes of iron ore expected to pass through the Port annually to begin with.

(e) Two million tonnes of iron ore per annum.

CONVERSION RATIO OF RICE TO PADDY IN MILLING INDUSTRY

*209. SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS : Will the Minister of FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Central team of experts visited Orissa during the last financial year to enquire into the conversion ratio of rice to paddy in the milling industry;

if so, what was their finding and what was the ratio accepted by the State Government prior to that;

(c) whether the State Government accepted the ratio recommended by the expert team of the Government of India; and

(d) if not, the reasons for the same and the present accepted ratio of conversion ?