

(a) whether Government have considered the feasibility of setting up Consumers' Co-operatives throughout the city of Delhi and elsewhere for the purpose of bulk purchase of commodities in order to reduce the prices charged to the consumer; and

(b) whether Government propose to set up a series of Consumers' Co-operatives throughout the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI B. S. MURTHY) : (a) Yes, Sir. In Delhi, two wholesale stores with 121 primary units have already been set up. In the other cities and towns with a population exceeding 50 thousand, 218 wholesale stores with 3529 retail units are in existence.

(b) A proposal for further expansion of the scheme is under consideration.

PROFIT FROM CARAVELLE FLIGHTS

SHRI SANKAR PRASAD •16.
J SINGH DEV:
SHRI LOKANATH MISRA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Caravelle services on all the ten sectors are running on profit;

(b) if not, which are the sectors where the services are still running at a loss; and

(c) what is the total monthly profit from the Caravelle flights?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) No, Sir.

(b. Delhi|Madras|Delhi service.

(c) It is too early to determine the total monthly profit on Caravelle services on the basis of operations during February to June, 1964.

STANDARD OF NUTRITION IN INDIA

•17. SHRI JAGAT NARAIN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food and Agriculture Organisation Statistical Division of the United Nations have carried out any surveys about the standard of nutrition in India; and

(b) if so, whether according to that survey 50 per cent of the Indian population has been classified as 'hungry'?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM) : (a) and (b) The Government of India are not aware of any surveys carried out by the Food and Agriculture Organisation Statistical Division of the United Nations about the standard of nutrition in India.

RISE IN PRICE OF VANASPATHI OIL

•18. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the price of vanaspathi oil has recently risen manifold; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether there is any proposal under consideration by Government to stabilise the prices, and if so, what are the details of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) There has been an increase in the price of vanaspathi recently but the increase cannot be considered to be manifold.

(b) The price of vanaspathi largely depends on the price of raw vegetable