

(b) whether all the State Governments are keeping pace with the Government of India in such measures; and

(c) which State Governments have declined to do so and why?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. JAIN): (a), (b) and (c). The State Governments have been informed of the decisions of the Government of India on the recommendations of the Rice Milling Committee and they are taking steps to implement them.

•MAXIMUM STANDARD FOR RICE MILLING

*160. SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state whether the maximum standard for rice milling with regard to polish as laid down by Government applies to imported rice also?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. JAIN): No, Sir.

THE 'ANDAMAN'

*168. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the 'Andaman', the newly built passenger-cum-cargo vessel in the Hindustan Shipyard Private Ltd., listed dangerously when floated;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the defect; and

(c) whether any enquiry has been held into the circumstances in which this serious defect occurred to the vessel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Yes, after the construction of 'Andaman' was completed it was discovered that the ship would be deficient in stability.

(b) and (c). A committee has been appointed to enquire into the circumstances leading to the defect in the vessel, to fix the responsibility therefor and to suggest measures to prevent recurrence of such defects.

TENDERS FOR DIESEL GENERATING SETS

*169. MOULANA M. FARUQI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any tenders from the various countries for the supply of 98 diesel generating sets;

(b) if so, what was the lowest tendered rate; and

(c) whether the purchase has since been made?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

PURCHASE OF METRE-GAUGE AND NARROW-GAUGE BOILERS

*170. MOULANA M. FARUQI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently purchased six metre-gauge boilers and four narrow-gauge boilers; and

(b) if so, at what cost?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

COORDINATED PROGRAMME FOR THE CONVERSION OF NATIONAL EXTENSION SERVICE AND MULTIPURPOSE PROJECTS INTO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCKS

♦171. MOULANA M. FARUQI: Will the Minister of COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any coordinated programme for converting a number of national extension