

Bombay State having failed, is it not thought necessary to open fair price shops in rural areas also?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: Yes, Sir, we are fully aware that the kharif crop, especially in Sholapur, Sangli, Osmanabad, the adjoining area of Kolhapur, etc., has failed due to heavy rains. The crop is very much affected. We had a meeting with the Bombay Government. Mr. Jain met the Chief Minister of Bombay Government and we have made all arrangements so that from the next month when the lean period starts this area will be supplied with enough of wheat.

SHRI A. P. JAIN: With your permission, I would like to add a few words, Sir. I have personally visited Bombay and discussed this question in detail with the Chief Minister and with the Food Minister. At present about 9 to 10,000 tons of wheat are being issued in the mofussil areas of Bombay State, that is, outside Bombay City. They assessed their requirements at about 30,000 tons but that was a rough estimate. They have been requested to make a firm estimate and we have undertaken to supply them the quantity which they need. This result in the opening of a much larger number of fair price shops for wheat in the area where jowar crop was affected.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: Is it a fact that wheat is being smuggled from Madhya Pradesh to Bombay State?

SHRI A. P. JAIN: Only the smugglers know it; I do not know it.

CONSTITUTION OF ALL-INDIA SERVICE OF IRRIGATION AND POWER ENGINEERS

***95. SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY:** Will the Minister for IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether an All-India Service of Irrigation and Power Engineers has been constituted; and

(b) if so, what are the details of this Service?

THE MINISTER FOR IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI S. K. PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know whether Government have given up the idea of establishing such a Service?

SHRI S. K. PATIL: We have not given up the idea. It is under active consideration.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know whether the opinion of the States has been called for and, if so, how many States have replied and in what way?

SHRI S. K. PATIL: Yes, it has been called for. Some States, if I mistake not six have accepted it; about eight do not accept it and five are yet in doubt.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know whether an assessment has been made of the personnel available who are fit to be recruited into this Service?

SHRI S. K. PATIL: Yes, Sir, it has been made and the question is being pursued.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: What will be the strength of the personnel?

SHRI S. K. PATIL: I would require notice for this, Sir.

INVITATION TO THE TRANS WORLD AIRWAYS FOR CONDUCTING A SURVEY OF AIR INDIA INTERNATIONAL

***96. SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY:** Will the Minister for TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have invited the Trans World Airways to conduct a survey of the operation of the Air India International; and