

(b) if so, the details of the gifts and their value?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Govinda Menon): (a) and (b). A vessel TRITONE arrived Bombay on the 6th April, 1966 and was berthed on the 7th April, 1966, for formal handing over of the gifts on board. The vessel carried about 9372 tonnes of wheat, 83.2 tonnes of milk powder and 20 motor vehicles and spare parts donated by RAI Television, an autonomous semi-government organisation of Italy. The value of the food gifts brought by TRITONE is about Rs. 30 lakhs. RAI-TV had made a collection of nearly 8 million dollars for relief of scarcity in India. They have utilised this money for making a gift of the following items for relief of scarcity in India:—

	Quantity
Wheat	30,000 tonnes approximately
Wheat Flour	10,016 Do.
Rice	11,500 Do.
Milk powder	83.2 Do.
Trucks & vehicles	152 Do.

The above figures include gifts brought by the vessel TRITONE.

There have been other gifts from Italy too. Messrs. Snam India Limited, an Italian oil firm operating in India, have donated three Leyland trucks in working condition. One Italian firm has offered 25,000 pounds of Macaroni and another has offered 10,000 bottles of a medicinal syrup. There have also been small donations of cash and foodstuffs to our Embassy in Rome.

Delhi-Damascus Air Service

4752. Shri Ram Harkh Yadav: Will the Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism be pleased to state:

(a) whether an air service is likely to be opened between Delhi and Damascus;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the terms of the agreement?

The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) Yes, Sir. The Syrian Arab Airlines will start an air service between Damascus and Delhi with effect from 3rd May, 1966.

(b) The service will be operated once a week on the route Damascus-Doha-Sharjah or Dubai-Karachi-Delhi.

(c) There is no bilateral air services agreement between the Government of India and the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic but temporary arrangements for reciprocal operation of services have been reached between the Aeronautical Authorities of the Government of India and the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic as a result of discussions between the Delegations of the two Governments, held in New Delhi in February/March, 1966.

Ambalapuzha-Edathua Road in Kerala

4753. Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri Warior:

Will the Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for the completion of the Ambalapuzha-Edathua road in Alleppy District, Kerala State in 1966-67;

(b) if so, the allocation made therefor; and

(c) whether Government have received representation regarding this road?

The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) to (c). The Ambalapuzha-Edathua road is a State road. The Government of Kerala are, therefore, primarily concerned with its development. The State Chief Engineer has intimated that they propose to take in hand during the current financial