

**Govinda Menon:** (a) to (c). The U.K. Government have offered an interest-free loan of £75 million for the following purposes:

- (i) the payment of the non-Indian rupee costs of the shipment of wheat and other food supplies from other Commonwealth countries;
- (ii) the provision of port handling equipment for Indian ports;
- (iii) the purchase of commodities of direct relevance to the present food shortage in India and commodities needed to maintain essential Indian Industrial production.

Out of the above amount £1.0 million is to be utilised on item (i) above. Precise allocations for the remaining items have not yet been settled. Details of port handling equipment to be obtained from this loan are, however, being worked out. Repayment of this loan will be in 25 years including a grace period of 7 years.

#### Luxury Hotels

**108. Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 541 on the 30th November, 1965 and state:

(a) whether the Indian party who applied for collaboration with Hiltons has submitted the final proposals to set up the proposed network of luxury hotels in India;

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof; and

(c) whether those proposals fulfilled the minimum requirements laid down by Government for such a collaboration?

**The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy):** (a) No, Sir. The Indian party has only submitted a preliminary proposal to set up one hotel in India.

(b) and (c). It is not possible to answer these questions until the final proposals have been received from the Indian party and have been examined by Government.

#### Cultivable Land

**109. Shri Malachami:  
Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:  
Shri D. D. Puri:**

Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of cultivable land in the country left uncultivated;

(b) the steps taken either by assignment or leasing the land to the landless agriculturists to utilise the land for increasing food production; and

(c) the progress made in bringing such land under the plough, State-wise?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shinde):** (a) The acreage of cultivable waste land in the country is 43 million acres according to the Land Utilisation Statistics for the year 1962-63.

(b) A large extent of the cultivable waste land might not be available for cultivation due to high cost of reclamation. The Waste Lands Survey and Reclamation Committee appointed by the Government of India recommended about 12.2 lakh acres in blocks of more than 250 acres for reclamation and cultivation. Under the Centrally sponsored Scheme, a survey is in progress to locate suitable lands in blocks of less than 250 acres for allotment to landless agricultural families. So far about 41 lakh acres have been located under the Scheme. The Scheme is in progress in other districts of the country.

Lands suitable for cultivation are distributed to landless families under