

ter will consider the release of the remaining amount immediately in the light of what has been stated above.

Secondly, about the renovation of Nissam type terminal building, it is true that some renovation has been done last year and that is not sufficient. Hardly about 40 to 50 chairs are there for all the passengers including for the security rooms in the complex. I would like to know whether the Government will look into it and provide the necessary furniture immediately.

**SHRI A. P. SHARMA:** I have already said that this question is under the consideration of the Government now. Earlier, the Director General, Civil Aviation, had asked for that account. Now, the Director General Civil Aviation, had asked for the account to the Government, and I want to assure the hon. Member that very shortly we will take the decision in the matter and release the amount.

**SHRI P. NAMGYAL:** It is locally felt that the Aerodrome Officer should be a local man so that he can look after the terminal building in a better way because the local man is always stationed there. Will the hon. Minister consider this suggestion?

**SHRI A. P. SHARMA:** It is an All-India Service and definitely for certain posts and for certain jobs we do consider the local people but not in all cases.

**SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:** Srinagar is one of the most important regions of the country and from the tourist point of view it is also one of the most important cities. But it is lacking the night landing facilities. May I draw the attention of the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation to this and know what steps they are taking in this behalf?

**SHRI A. P. SHARMA:** It is for Leh or Srinagar?

**SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:** Srinagar.

**SHRI A. P. SHARMA:** Although this question does not arise out of this question, yet I take note of the suggestion of the hon. Member.

**भाषार्थ भगवान देव :** मारिगस एक छोटा भारत माना जाता है। हिन्द महासागर में विदेशी ताकतों के बढ़ते हुए कदम को देखते हुए, मारिगस को कितने विमान देने के सम्बन्ध में आपकी श्री रामगुलाम जी से बातचीत हुई है, कृपा कर बतलायें ?

**SHRI A. P. SHARMA:** Although this does not arise out of the main question, I can tell the hon. Member that we had some discussions regarding this matter.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS Making Andaman and Nicobar Islands into Holiday Resort

\*162. **SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU:** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are intending to make the Andaman and Nicobar Islands into a major holiday resort;

(b) the arrangements to be made for the purpose; and

(c) the financial implications thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA):** (a). No, Sir. There is no proposal to develop the Andaman and Nicobar Islands as a major holiday resort.

(b) and (c). Question does not arise.

#### Accumulation of Ingot Steel in Steel Plants

\*164. **SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM:**  
**SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:**

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the accumulation of over 8,00,000 tonnes of ingot steel in the Steel Plants and the steps being taken to dispose them of; and

(b) the reasons for the fall in production of saleable steel by about 60,000 tonnes between April and September, 1980, and the steps being taken to augment production of saleable steel?

**THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE):** (a) The steel ingot stocks had gone upto 7.5 lakh tonnes as on 1-8-1980 due to severe restrictions in power supply and imbalance in the availability of gaseous fuel to the rolling mills because of drastic cut in coke oven pushings. The ingot stocks are, however, coming down and, as on 22-11-1980, stood at 6.3 lakh tonnes. A reduction of about 1.2 lakh tonnes in the accumulated stocks has been achieved by several measures such as optimising the production of pig iron for sale and regulating the production of ingots so as to roll more and more ingots from stock, depending on the availability of power. Efforts are also being made to sell the ingots in domestic as well as foreign markets.

(b) If the question intends to seek information regarding production trends in the six integrated steel plants over the 6 month period, the information is that in September, 1980 there was a production of 4.3 lakh tonnes of saleable steel which was higher than in April, 1980 by 30,000 tonnes. Regarding the total production in these six months vis-a-vis the quantities targeted and actually produced in the corresponding period last year, the information is as under:—

(in ,000 tonnes)

Target	Actual	Actual
April-Sept. '80	April-Sept. '80	April-Sept. '79
3424	2685	2858

The main factors responsible for short-fall in production are severe restrictions in power supply and inadequate availability of coking coal to the steel

plants. The important steps taken to augment production of saleable steel include import of coking coal, maximisation of power generation from the captive units in the steel plants, close and constant liaison with in-puts supplying agencies and regular monitoring of the power and coal position at various levels through inter-ministerial and inter-departmental committees. Steps have also been taken to instal additional captive power generating capacity at Durgapur and Bokaro Steel Plants.

**Establishment of Apex Bank for Financing Agricultural Sector**

\*167. **DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) whether Government have prepared a Bill to establish an apex Bank for financing the agricultural sector;

(b) if so, the salient features of the National Agricultural Development Bank of India, it's paid-up capital, the areas identified for distribution of funds, the period of loan and interest;

(c) whether the proposed Agricultural Bank will merge in itself the Agricultural Refinance & Development Corporation, Agricultural Finance Corporation, the Agricultural Credit Division of the Reserve Bank and the Regional Rural Banks to give a co-ordinated effect to fuel agricultural finance;

(d) whether all the other recommendations of the Study Report of B. Shivaraman are incorporated in the new idea;

(e) what would be the role and status of co-operative societies at a district level under the new scheme; and

(f) whether all International aid for rural and agricultural development would be channelised through the apex bank?