Inquiries of the Ministry

• (1510)

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I assume, this being a new session, that the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications will be reconstituted. Of course, it is the master of its own affairs in terms of bringing forward such a recommendation. If one were to be brought forward, I would consider it sympathetically.

[Translation]

IMMIGRATION ACT

INQUIRY AS TO AMENDMENT

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the Minister of Manpower and Immigration will be away from the House for several days, I should like to put a question to the right hon. Prime Minister. With regard to the list of bills he tabled on the first day of the session, can the Prime Minister tell us whether or not the government has given up any intention of amending the Immigration Act and the Immigration Appeal Board Act, in view of the situation that now exists and the fact that the former minister promised that such amending bills would be passed early in the new session?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, when changes were made, I asked the new minister to study the matter and report either to me or to the cabinet. Unfortunately, he has not yet had a chance to make that report.

[English]

AIRPORTS

TORONTO—OPPORTUNITY FOR REPRESENTATIONS BY THOSE AFFECTED FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW SITE

Mr. Norman A. Cafik (Ontario): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport. In view of the speculation that the new international airport for the Toronto region may be located in the Pickering area of Ontario riding, would the minister give his assurance that after any announcement individuals and groups affected will have a reasonable and ample opportunity to express their views and, hopefully, have them taken into account with regard to the advisability of any proposed location?

Mr. Alexander: The minister gave that assurance one year ago.

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I gave that assurance quite some time ago. I am quite prepared to reaffirm it and say that, wherever the location happens to be, ample opportunity will be provided for public participation.

NATIONAL REVENUE

FREEZING OF ESTATES OF PERSONS WHO HAVE DIED SINCE FIRST OF YEAR

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National [Mr. Danforth.]

Revenue. Can he advise whether his department is freezing estates of those Canadians who have died since the start of this year in a number of provinces and, if so, on what statutory authority?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, I will take that question as notice.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

ASSISTANCE TO BANGLA DESH

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs a question following the one to which he replied on Monday. Can he indicate what Canadian aid is now going to Bangla Desh and, particularly, can he advise if the lost or diverted shiploads of wheat have been directed to a port in that country?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, \$22 million has been allocated for the relief of those who were refugees in India. Seven million dollars in wheat has also been allocated to Bangla Desh and \$500,000 has been made available in cash to the United Nations' relief operation there. Of that total, \$11.5 million has been channelled through international organizations and Canadian voluntary agencies. Over one half of the \$7 million in wheat has been delivered. The remainder has been shipped and will be delivered shortly. The entire \$500,000 given to the United Nations organization has been disbursed. Also, part of that \$7 million of wheat is the subject of legal action by the government of Canada for recovery.

INDIANS AFFAIRS

ATTENDANCE OF DEPARTMENTAL OBSERVER AT INQUEST INTO DEATH OF INDIAN WOMAN

Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Is an observer from his department to attend the inquest into the death of an Indian woman at Sandy Lake, northern Ontario? I understand the inquest is to take place tomorrow. I ask this question in view of the wide implications involved in this case as to the adequacy or inadequacy of health services throughout northern Ontario.

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I am taking note of the suggestion of the hon. member. I shall inquire and ask an official of my department to attend the coroner's inquest as an observer.

* * * TRANSPORT

PROMOTION OF DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION OF DHC-7 STOL AIRCRAFT

Mr. P. V. Noble (Grey-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Transport. What