

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** We will let the West Bengal Government know the feelings of this House in this matter.

#### SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

#### Mysterious Flights of Chinese Transport Planes

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S.N.Q. 4. { **Shri Jashvant Mehta:**  
**Shri Kaashi Ram Gupta:**  
**Shri Vishram Prasad:**  
**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:**  
**Shri Surendra Nath Dwivedy:**

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India have investigated the mysterious flights of Chinese transport planes from Kuming to Kathmandu in August last; and

(b) if so, the findings of the investigation?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):** (a) The Government are aware of the flight of 3 AN-2 type aircraft which were ferry-flown from Dacca to Kathmandu across Indian territory. Permission for the flights across India was requested by Nepalese authorities and was granted by the authorities in India.

(b) The 3 aircraft had been presented by the Government of China to His Majesty the King of Nepal at the time of His Majesty's visit to China. At the time of their ferry-flights the 3 aircraft belonged to His Majesty's Government of Nepal.

**Shri Jashvant Mehta:** When the Government received the request for the planes to cross over this area, may I know whether there was any reason given for this crossing?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** The reason given is, in order to reach Kathmandu to fly over India.

**Mr. Speaker:** The planes had been given over to His Majesty the King of Nepal by the Chinese Government. This became the property of the Nepal Government and, therefore, the Nepal Government had to take them to Kathmandu.

**Shri Nath Pai:** When the reports regarding the flight of these planes appeared in the press, I think, the Ministry should have felt called upon to clarify the position. Why do they allow this kind of suspicion to hang on so long and continue to work in an atmosphere of cloak and dagger? If the matter was so simple, why did they not come forward with a clarification immediately?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** It is given in normal course because the only way to reach Kathmandu is over India and all these planes were registered as Nepalese planes.

**Mr. Speaker:** That is not the question. The question is this. From the press reports there was an impression created that the Chinese planes had flown over our territory. If the facts were so simple that they belonged to the Nepal Government, why was it not made clear then?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** These things are done in the normal course. We do not offer an explanation every time.

**Shri Nath Pai:** In spite of the fact that you tried to persuade her to give a clearer reply, she has evaded it. The reason is that there is a suspicion in this country about the Chinese activities. The press does its duty in publishing it. The Government ignores it. When it is too late, it comes with a simple reply and tries to hold the press and Parliament to ridicule. Why did they not act up to their responsibility when the first report appeared in the press

by coming out and saying that it was not correct?

**Mr. Speaker:** The Budget session is approaching.

**Shri Hem Barua:** May I know, when the Nepalese Government asked for permission to fly these planes over India, whether our Government had asked from the Nepalese Government if these planes were carrying Chinese or not. If the Government knew that they were carrying Chinese nationals and yet they gave permission to them, are we to understand that the Government have reconciled themselves to the flying of Chinese nationals over our territory?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** The first plane was flown in May, 1962; the second was flown in 1963 and the third one later. The permission of our authorities was sought for each flight and it was accorded. There is no mystery about these flights. It is also clear that at the time of their transit across India, the aircraft belonged to the Nepal Government. They cannot, therefore, be described as Chinese aircraft. In the first aircraft, there was an Indian Navigator and in the others they had Nepalese and Australian personnel.

**Mr. Speaker:** There were no Chinese?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** No, Sir.

**Shri Kashi Ram Gupta:** Why were the planes sent to Dacca? Was there no direct route to Kathmandu?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** Evidently, this is the usual route that the planes take.

**Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:** Is it not a fact that under the rules the Indian Navigator should have gone in all the three planes, whereas, as the Minister has admitted, in the first plane only the Indian Navigator was there. May I know why in the rest of the two planes, no Indian navigator accompanied the planes?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** It was purely for the Nepalese Government as to what kind of Navigators they must have.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Is the Government aware that since the last winter debacle on the Himalayan frontier, Nepal has drawn closer to China and since then men and machinery have been arriving in plane-loads from China to Kathmandu ostensibly for road building and some other developmental projects but really for more sinister purposes directed against India and, if so, whether Government has taken notice of this fact that men and machinery coming from China have sinister designs against India?

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member should not put the question in such a manner.

श्री विश्वाम प्रसाद : यह खबर भ्रमस्त में छपी थी। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार अब से इस बात के लिये काशस रहेगी कि इस तरह की खबरें अगर छपा करें तो देश में जो भिसभ्रंडरस्टैंडिंग फैलती है, उसको दूर करने की कोशिश की जाए ?

श्री अध्यक्ष महोदय : इस पर ख्याल किया जाएगा।

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WRITTEN ANSWER TO  
QUESTIONS

Viva Voce in Secondary School  
Examination

\*647. { Shri Yamuna Prasad Mandal;  
Shri Sidheshwar Prasad;  
Shri P. R. Chakraverti;  
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Secondary Education authorities have been