

Shri Tyagi: It has not been given, Sir. I want the total.

Mr. Speaker: It has to be totalled up.

Shri Tyagi: What was the total amount involved in this?

Shri Dinesh Singh: I think it was about Rs. 4,701.

Shri Ansar Harvani: Is the Government aware that there is a very big population in this country, half of whom go to the east with the help of the Peace Council and the other half go to the west with the help of the MRA, and, if so, what are the Government doing about it?

Mr. Speaker: For the present we are going only to east; not to the west.

श्री भारद्वाज झा आजाद : क्या दिव्य युवक समारंभ में सम्मिलित होने वाले हिन्दुस्तान के विभिन्न युवक प्रतिनिधियों ने मंत्रालय को कोई रिपोर्ट दी है और वहाँ की कार्यवाहियों के संबंध में कुछ प्रकाश डाला है ?

श्री दिनेश सिंह : कुछ लोगों ने इसका जिक्र किया है। कोई रिपोर्ट तो मैंने नहीं देखी है।

श्री बागड़ी : क्या यह सत्य है कि समाजवादी युवक सभा के जो प्रतिनिधि गये थे उनको सिर्फ ७५ रुपये ही दिये गये थे और अगर यह सत्य है तो मैं पृथक्ता चाहूंगा कि जब कांग्रेस वालों को सौ पाउंड दिया गया तो इनको ७५ रुपये ही क्यों दिये गये, इस अन्तर का क्या कारण है ?

श्री दिनेश सिंह : मैंने अभी इसका विस्तारपूर्वक उत्तर दिया है। जो यहां से, जो हिन्दुस्तान से बाहर जाते हैं, जिनको इलाहाबाद रिजर्व बैंक देना है, वे ७५ रुपये की विदेशी मुद्रा ले जा सकते हैं। भारत समाजवादी युवक सभा जो थी वह प्रैप्रेटरी कमेटी जो बना थी, उसमें शामिल थी। इन्होंने कोई और विदेशी मुद्रा हम से नहीं मांगी।

श्री बागड़ी : यह नहीं बताना गया है कि कांग्रेस वालों को क्यों सौ पाउंड दिया और इनको क्यों केवल ७५ रुपये दिये।

Mr. Speaker: Short Notice Question.

Mr. Speaker: Shri D. C. Sharma.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications

Some Hon. Members: Louder, please.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members speak so loudly that instead of allowing the hon. Member to speak, they drown him.

श्री भवत दर्शन : श्रीमान्, क्या भी नहीं लगता है कि माननीय सदस्य बैठ हुये हैं ५। खड़े हैं ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अब मैं क्या कर सकता हूँ।

Shri D. C. Sharma: Nobody can drown me except yourself, Sir.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS

Nepal Plane Crash

S.N.Q. 13. {
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Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Y. D. Singh:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Daji:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether any trace of the Royal Nepal Airlines aircraft that had taken off from Pokhara aerodrome on Sunday, the 26th August, 1962 has been found out;

(b) if so, when and under what conditions the aircraft was found;

(c) total number of passengers on board and number of Indians amongst them; and

(d) whether any compensation will be paid to the families of the deceased Indian Officers?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram: (a) to (d). I lay a statement giving the requisite information on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

Pilatus PC-6 Porter aircraft 9N-AAF, belonging to the Government of Nepal, crashed at Barsedhuri at a height of approximately 14000 to 16000 ft., on 26th August, 1962, after it had taken off from Pokhra for Dhorpatan. All the six persons on board the aircraft were killed and the aircraft was destroyed by impact and fire.

2. Intimation was received in New Delhi on 1st September, 1962 that a Swiss Ground Search Party Sherpa had succeeded in locating the wreckage of the plane at Barsedhuri and that the plane had been completely burnt, killing all the occupants on board.

3. The aircraft carried the following passengers on board:

(1) Shri R. S. Randhawa—
Pilot—Indian.

(2) Shri A. M. N. Sastry,
Inspector of Accidents, Civil
Aviation Department—Indian.

(3) Shri B. D. Sharma, First
Secretary, Indian Embassy. Kath-
mandu—Indian.

(4) Shri R. Buhariwala, RNAC
Engineer—Indian.

(5) Shri Rameshwar Prasad,
Superintendent of Police, Pokhra
—Nepalese and

(6) Dr. M. M. Dixit—Nepalese.

4. Compensation to families is payable by the employers, in accordance with the terms and conditions of service of the deceased officers. Details of the compensation payable to the Indian officers are not readily available.

Shri D. C. Sharma: In the statement, it is said:

"Pilatus PC-6 Porter . . . crashed at Barsedhuri at a height of approximately 14000 to 16000 feet on 26th August, 1962 after it had taken off from Pokhra for Dhorpatan."

Since the aircraft was burnt to ashes and all the passengers were killed, and nobody has survived, may I know how the Government has been able to find out the altitude to which this aircraft was flying?

Mr. Speaker: Before falling, the aircraft always has contact with the control.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: It was not control, but the area and the terrain are there. It was located by some villagers there and intimation was given. Then, the police and other officers visited the place. It is not very difficult to determine what is the altitude.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if the Indian officers who have been killed will get compensation from our Government or from the Nepal Government?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: That is a matter of detail. But according to the conditions of service, our officers are entitled to some compensation, pension and other things. We are further examining whether due to the special circumstances in which they were killed, some extraordinary compensation will be payable to them.

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know whether any enquiry has been set up by the Nepal Government to find out the cause of the accident and whether our Government is participating in the enquiry?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: That is a formality. Perhaps the hon. Member is not aware that this aircraft was taking the officers in order to investigate the cause of the

accident of the previous Dakota aircraft. This also met with the same fate. I do not know what further enquiry they will have and whether any pilot will have the courage to fly in that region.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Since this is the second accident of this type, may I know whether the Government will investigate and satisfy itself that this is not due to any shooting down of the plane by some hostile people? May I know whether this aspect of the matter will be looked into?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: That is for the Nepal Government to ascertain. Hon. Members forget that this accident did not take place in our territory, but it took place in Nepalese territory.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I fully agree with the hon. Minister's statement. But in this accident an official of the Indian Embassy was involved and out of six people four were Indian nationals who were killed. I want to know whether after the second accident the Government of India also will take up the matter seriously and satisfy themselves that these accidents were only accidents and were not due to anything else?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Every accident is investigated into and this also will be investigated. I do not understand how the hon. Member desires that we should investigate into this and see whether there was anything other than accident.

Shri Daji: In view of the seriousness as has just been pointed out by my hon. friend may I know whether the Government of India would request the Nepalese Government—now that there have been two accidents of the same type—to associate our officers with the investigation into these accidents?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: As a matter of fact, hon. Members should remember that without our requesting the Nepal Government to associate our officers in the previous enquiry, the Nepal Government themselves requested us to help them by lending the services of one of our Aircraft Inspectors for investigating into the causes of the accident.

Shri Daji: And now?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Now? It is very easy to suggest, but it is not very easy to induce our officers to undertake investigation in that area.

Shri Joachim Alva: During the period of the first and second Nepali air crash, did the Communications Ministry devise any means through the Indian Airlines, of offering some kind of long-term or short-term assistance by way of radar assistance either by lending or fitting the apparatus reconnoitring the Terrain and loan out other instruments?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: What is the radar assistance in that area?

Shri Joachim Alva: That is good neighbourly assistance.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Radar assistance can be considered only for important aerodromes like Khatmandu and others. That can be considered only if the request comes from the Government concerned and not otherwise.

6 Scarcity Conditions in Kurnool District

S.N.Q. 14. Shri Venkatasubbaiah: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that acute scarcity conditions are prevailing in Pathikunda, Abur, Dronachalam and Adoni Taluks of Kurnool District in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether many villages are suffering for want of drinking water and shortage of foodstuffs; and