

LOK SABHA DEBATES

5073

5074

LOK SABHA

Monday, December 10, 1962/Agra-haryana 19, 1884 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Twelve of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Short Notice Questions

Accident to Air India Boeing 707

S.N.Q. 10. { Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
Shri Karni Singhji:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:

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

(a) the cause of the recent accident to Air India Boeing 707 at Santa Cruz resulting in the plane virtually being written off; and

(b) steps taken or being taken by Government to prevent such accidents from happening again particularly at this juncture when every available aeroplane is needed for the war effort?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) and (b). A Committee of Enquiry consisting of Shri M. L. Sodhi, Director of Aeronautical Inspection, Civil Aviation Department, as Chairman, and Shri M. H. Paranjpye, Controller of Aeronautical Inspection, Bombay, as Member, has been appointed under Rule 74 of the Indian Aircraft Rules, to investigate into the cause of the accident. The report of the Committee is awaited.

2405 (Ai) LSD—2.

[एक कमेटी आफ एन्क्वायरी मुकरंर की गई है, जिसके चेयरमैन श्री एम० एल० सोढी, डायरेक्टर आफ एयरोनाटिकल इंस्पेक्शन सिविल एविएशन डिपार्टमेंट, और मेम्बर श्री एम० एच० परांजपे, कंट्रोलर आफ एयरोनाटिकल इंस्पेक्शन, बम्बई हैं। वह कमेटी इस वाक्ये की पूरे तौर से जांच करेगी और उस की रिपोर्ट का इंतजार है।]

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि इस विमान की कुल कीमत कितनी थी और प्राय लग जाने से इस विमान की कितनी हानि हुई है ?

श्री मुहीउद्दीन : अभी तो नुकसान का प्रन्दाज बताना मुश्किल है। कमेटी मुकरंर की गई है और बोइंग के इंजिनियरिंग वर्कर भी आ गए हैं, ताकि इस का प्रन्दाजा कर सकें। उस की खरीद कीमत कोई साढ़े तीन करोड़ थी।

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I want to know whether any preliminary enquiry was conducted departmentally and if so, what was the result of that enquiry?

Shri Mohiuddin: No, Sir. The first enquiry will be conducted by the committee appointed for this purpose.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Is it a fact that a similar fire incident took place to an Air India Super Constellation two years back and at that time it was found that the fire fighting equipment at Santa Cruz was inadequate and what measures have been taken to supplement the fire fighting equipment in Santa Cruz?

Mr. Speaker: That is a different thing altogether.

Shri Bhanu Prakash Singh: As Boeing 707 is not manufactured in India, may I know whether only the parts would be imported or foreign technicians would also come to repair the plane and what would be the total foreign exchange involved in the making the plane airworthy?

Mr. Speaker: That is a different thing altogether.

Accumulation of stock of Cloth with Textile Mills

S.N.Q. 11. Shri Harish Chndra Mathur: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is unusual accumulation of stock of cloth with Textile Mills;

(b) what is the stock and reasons for accumulation, if any; and

(c) Government's action to restore normalcy?

The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (c). There has been some accumulation of stock in the textile mills in some parts of the country like Bombay city, West Bengal, Ahmedabad and some mills in other areas. It is estimated that the industry as a whole is currently carrying about 4.3 lakhs of bales of 1500 metres each, which is about an average of 6½ weeks' stock.

These stocks with mills cannot be considered as very unusual although stocks are slightly higher than what had been held by the mills in the recent past. The increase would be attributable mainly to the lower off-take by the consuming areas in the North-eastern States due to the present situation.

Government do not consider the position as alarming. The Reserve Bank of India are already alive to the need for financial accommodation to mills to the extent unnecessary to keep up the tempo of production.

Several measures have been taken in the last few weeks to stabilize the economic conditions of the North-eastern areas.

While there has been magnificent response from all sections of public, industry, trade and business to maintain a very high degree of confidence and morale to meet the emergency, it is noticed that in some sectors of business and trade, there is an undertone of anxiety which is responsible for slackening of economic activities by these sections. Government would like to re-assure the trading and the business community throughout the country and particularly in the North-eastern areas that there is nothing to warrant in the situation to have any such anxiety at all and Government assures all necessary assistance regarding transport and financial credit to enable keep up production, employment and economic activity in the present national emergency.

Over and above the general arrangement for suitable accommodation by banks for holding larger stocks, in case of some mills who might be finding it more difficult to sell their products and where the goods might not be moving fast, necessary financial credit will be given to maintain somewhat larger stocks on the basis of study of individual mills and their problems. The State Governments concerned have, therefore, been asked to study such special problems of individual mills in consultation with the local labour and industry and necessary steps are being taken to enable such mills to carry on somewhat larger stocks and continue normal production.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur rose—

Mr. Speaker: After such a long statement, are any supplementary questions necessary?

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: I would like to ask only two questions.

May I know whether Government are in a position to assure the House