

previous House the answer has been given. The price of sugar is linked with the price of sugarcane and also excise duty. Unless these two items are reduced there is no scope for reducing the price of sugar for internal consumption.

**Shri P. R. Patel:** It is said that we have entered into an agreement with America to export sugar at Rs. 550 per ton in exchange for cotton...

**Mr. Speaker:** What is the need for all this preface? This is already known to the hon. Minister. He may come to the question straight.

**Shri P. R. Patel:** What will we have to pay for the cotton from America?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** For the imports of cotton from America we will be paying the world price. We are in need of long-staple cotton, and we will have to spend foreign exchange for this purpose but for this barter agreement. As far as the price aspect is concerned it is governed by other factors.

#### Unemployed Civilian Pilots

\*52. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the unemployed trained civilian pilots have been provided with jobs;

(b) if not, the number of those who are still unemployed; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to provide them with employment?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Mohiuddin):** (a) and (b). 33 Pilots with current 'B' licences are believed to be unemployed of which only 8 were trained at the Civil Aviation Training Centre while the remaining 25 obtained their licences through the Flying Clubs.

(c) Employment was secured for 9 pilots with the Indian Air Force who have been requested to absorb

some more. 4 or 5 pilots are believed to have secured employment with the non-scheduled operators and 4 pilots have been selected for the posts of Assistant Aerodrome Officers. Some more pilots may be able to secure employment as Assistant Aerodrome Officers as some further recruitment is being made in the near future.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** The hon. the Deputy Minister has stated that some pilots are "believed to have secured employment". May I know whether they have been employed or not? What is the information with the hon. Minister?

**Shri Mohiuddin:** My information is that they have been absorbed. Five at least have been employed. But that information is not completely confirmed. As far as four are concerned, that has been confirmed.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Sir, this notice has been given ten days before, and this is a matter which is being actually discussed in the House...

**Mr. Speaker:** Whatever information the hon. Minister possesses he is passing it on to the hon. Member.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Sir, you will kindly protect us. They do not give us information. On this particular point they have not been able to get the information, namely, about the total number of pilots still unemployed and how many have been provided employment. He says "believed to be". What is this "believed to be"?

**Mr. Speaker:** Has the hon. Minister got definite information about that?

**Shri Mohiuddin:** The definite information, I have given. 33 pilots with current 'B' licences are unemployed of whom eight were trained at the Civil Aviation Training Centre, while the remaining 25 obtained their licences through Flying Clubs. This is the definite information.

**Shri Jaipal Singh:** Under the law every commercial pilot has to be registered so that he can be conscript-

ed in an emergency. What is the total number of commercial pilots, employed or unemployed, who have been registered?

**Shri Mohiuddin:** I have not got the total. That will include all the pilots who are employed by the I.A.C. and the Flying Clubs.

**Shri Jaipal Singh:** This information should be with the hon. Minister.

**Shri Mohiuddin:** I have not got the figure with me here.

**Mr. Speaker:** During Question Hour hon. Members can only get the information that is available with the Ministers. That information is not with him.

**Shri Nath Pai:** May I know how many pilots have taken advantage of the facility made available to them by the Government, or are believed to have taken advantage of the facility offered by the Government for a refresher course to renew the 'B' licences?

**Shri Mohiuddin:** There are a number of pilots who have taken advantage of the offer that has been made. I have not got the exact figure, because they come through the Flying Clubs. And as far as 1961-62 is concerned, the final figures are not yet available.

**Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:** Is it not a fact that Government have started various intensive schemes for training civilian pilots; and may I know whether Government simultaneously are creating employment for all these pilots who are trained by these schemes?

**Shri Mohiuddin:** I am not aware of 'various schemes' that have been started. There is one Civil Aviation Training Centre at Allahabad, and there are a certain number of Flying Clubs. Out of fourteen, there are about six Flying Clubs that also give training for 'B' licence, and this is also on a very restricted basis.

**Shri Basappa:** May I know whether responsibility can be fixed for train-

ing these pilots who are not required, and what is the cost of training a pilot?

**Shri Mohiuddin:** The cost of training, at the C.A.T.C., was estimated last time to be about Rs. 40,000.

**Shri Basappa:** Can the responsibility be fixed?

**Shri Mohiuddin:** No responsibility can be fixed. After all, training is given, and Government has not taken any responsibility to provide them employment. We only help them in getting employment.

**Shri Basappa:** There is no planning.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. It is an argument.

**Shri M. R. Krishna:** Out of the pilots who have been absorbed, may I know how many have been absorbed in posts for which they are not qualified?

**Shri Mohiuddin:** I do not think any pilot could be absorbed for which he is not qualified.

#### Telegraph Operators

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- \*53. { **Shri Hem Barua:**  
**Shri Shree Narayan Das:**  
**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Operators in the Telegraph Offices are being compelled to work overtime;

(b) whether it is also a fact that they are being threatened that they would be charge-sheeted in case they refuse; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to remove the fear and help the Operators to work more efficiently?

**The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram):**  
(a) Operating staff works overtime for the clearance of traffic according to rules. No compulsion is applied.