

Shri Krishna Menon: Between four and five miles.

Mr. Speaker: What is the height to which they went?

Shri Krishna Menon: I have not got the figures of the height.

Shri Hem Barua: In view of the fact that this is not the first incident of Pakistani aircraft violating our air space, may I know what steps Government have taken so far to force them down to our ground? Have they taken any steps towards that?

Shri Krishna Menon: Three of these violations are across the cease-fire line, and our obligations under the cease-fire agreement are to report to the Commission, which has been done. The other, in the East Punjab area, penetrated five miles. So far as I am aware, it is not possible to force down a fast plane within that distance without entering their territory.

Shri Hem Barua: On a previous occasion, our supersonic plane was forced down by Pakistan Air Force. If they can do it, why is it that we cannot do it the same way?

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow this question. Possibly it was much in the interior. If he wants to know, he must ask if the previous supersonic plane which was brought down was more than five miles away into the interior or if they shot it within that distance.

He says the Canberra was shot down by them. Was it within the same distance?

Shri Krishna Menon: Actually, it is another question. First of all he Canberra is not a supersonic plane.

Mr. Speaker: Whatever it might be, if they can shoot our plane, why should we not shoot their aircraft? That is the only point.

Shri Krishna Menon: It is not the practice to shoot down aeroplanes until all the diplomatic possibilities have been exhausted. We think the Pakistanis behaved badly in this matter. At that time they should not have shot down that plane even if it had strayed into their territory. Once a country starts shooting down planes even on the slightest genuine provocation until diplomatic means are exhausted, it will lead to difficulties. In this particular case one plane flew over the Kashmir cease-fire line in the East Punjab area within 5 miles of our territory. Even if we had chosen to pursue that, the chances are that our planes would have been shot down in their territory.

Shri Nath Pai: Did we give a red warning to the aircraft.

Rourkela Steel Plant

+

Shri P. G. Deb:
Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shri Sadhan Gupta:
Shri Supakar:
 *436. **Shri P. C. Borooah:**
Pandit D. N. Tiwari:
Shri N. R. Muniswamy:
Shri Kalika Singh:
Shri N. M. Deb:
Shri Warrior:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) the result of the enquiry into the accident of the slabbing and blooming mill in Rourkela;

(b) what are the terms of the agreement regarding loss arising out of breakdown and who will bear it; and

(c) whether the terms of the enquiry include computation of the loss incurred, including loss in production?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha): (a) The report of the Committee of Enquiry has just been received and is under the consideration of Government.

(b) According to the contract with the firm which supplied electrical equipment for the blooming and slabbing mill, the contractors have to replace or repair at their own cost all equipment that fail or show signs of defects under proper use, for a period of 12 months from the date of commissioning of the equipment.

(c) No, Sir.

Shri P. G. Deb: I want to know whether the Chairman of the Committee had submitted an interim report.

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): The report has been submitted; it is under examination and the main recommendations of this committee would be reported to Parliament after the examination is complete.

Shri Supakar: What was the total period of breakdown of this slabbing mill?

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: Near-about 47 days; the blooming and slabbing mills could not work for this period.

Shri P. G. Deb: Who has borne the expenses of the German technicians brought from West Germany to Rourkela?

Sardar Swaran Singh: They have so far been paid by the contractors.

Pandit D. N. Tiwari: What is the loss suffered during the 47 days when the mills were out of order?

Sardar Swaran Singh: It is not possible to estimate that.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: When was the report submitted to Government and how long will it take to examine this report?

Sardar Swaran Singh: This was received only a few days ago—less than a week ago; and it will take about a month for examination.

Demands of L.I.C. Field Officers

+

*437. { **Shri Tangamani:**
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shri Yadav Narain Jadhav:
Shri Goray:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation has now considered the recommendations of the Committee appointed to go through the various demands of the Field Officers of Life Insurance Corporation;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) if not, the reason for this abnormal delay; and

(d) whether the recommendations are of a unanimous nature?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) to (d). The recommendations of the Joint Committee appointed to go through the various demands of the Field Officers of the Life Insurance Corporation are still under consideration of the Corporation.

Shri Tangamani: On a previous occasion in reply to Starred Question No. 1313 dated the 7th September, 1961, an identical answer was given. I would like to know whether a decision would be arrived at soon at least on a few of the recommendations like bonus and indiscriminate transfers?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Out of 21 recommendations made by this committee, 7 have already been accepted by the Corporation and the rest are being examined very actively. And, I think, very soon, in about a week or fortnight, they will announce their decision.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I want to know whether all the recommendations were of a unanimous nature. If so what was the necessity of refer-