

LOK SABHA

Monday, March 26, 1962/Chaitra 5, 1884
(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Air Space Violation by Pakistan

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*188. { Shri P. G. Deb:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Defence be
pleased to state:

(a) whether a Pakistani aeroplane
violated the Indian territory on the
12th December, 1961 near Ranbir-
singhpura; and

(b) if so, the details of the incident?

The Minister of Defence (Shri
Krishna Menon): (a) There was no
violation of Indian air space on the
12th December. There was however
an intrusion into our air space on the
11th December by a Pakistan Jet Air-
craft near Ranbirsinghpura.

(b) A complaint of violation has
been lodged with the military observer
and his decision is awaited.

Shri P. G. Deb: I would like to
know why the Pakistan plane was
not shot down just as Pakistan had
shot down the Indian jet plane about
three years back.

Shri Krishna Menon: First of all,
Mr. Speaker, unless you direct other-
wise, this matter is before the viola-
tion authorities and I do not know
whether we should go into the details.
But as regards the general question,
civilized countries do not shoot down
an aeroplane at the first provocation
in peace time, and it is not the policy
of the Government to shoot down
planes which violate our air space in

this way on the border. And in any
case they are too high for peace-time
operations.

Shri P. G. Deb: Is it a fact that
Pakistan exhibited the most modern
supersonic American jet planes on the
23rd March in honour of Mrs.
Kennedy?

Shri Krishna Menon: That is ano-
ther question.

Shri A. M. Tariq: Could the hon.
Minister tell the House the make of
this plane which was used by the
Pakistan Government and also whe-
ther it is a fact that this plane was
one of those planes which the Ameri-
can Government has given as aid to
the Pakistan Government?

Shri Krishna Menon: Yes, it was
one of those sabre jets that Pakistan
have got. As regards the range, the
range of every plane from Pakistan
will get into India because it is the
neighbouring country, I do not know
what the meaning of the question is.
Whether we can get right back to the
four corners of India, I cannot say.
The jet aircraft flew from the direc-
tion of Sialkot and over our territory
towards Jammu. I think we know
what the type of the plane is, but
we have not seen the identification
marks. That is all that we can say. It
is not a training plane or anything of
the kind, it is a fighter plane.

Shri A. M. Tariq: Is it a fact that
there are no other planes except
American planes with the Pakistan
Government, and is it also a fact that
before giving this aid to the Pakistan
Government the Government of the
United States has given the assurance
that these planes and other things will
not be used against India? If it is so,
may I know if the Government of
India has protested to the American
Government on this issue?

Shri Krishna Menon: The first part of the question is answered by the fact that we have registered a violation with the military observer—we need not register a violation with the Pakistan Government at all. The second part of the question is a matter that is not covered by this question. What America has said, the world knows, America knows, and we know. But these are plane manufactured in America which are in possession of the Pakistan Air Force. They have violated our air space. There is no doubt that they are Pakistan planes. That is why we have registered a violation.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether it is a fact that when it was brought to the notice of the Pakistan Government that the United States have given us an assurance that the arms and ammunition given by the United States to Pakistan will not be used against us, the Pakistan authorities categorically stated that it is none of the business of the United States as to how they use the arms and ammunition that they are getting; and, if that is so, may I know whether this violation by an American plane used by the Pakistan Government is a part of it or not?

Shri Krishna Menon: Government have to act according to certain procedures. In this matter the violation is across the cease-fire line and therefore it is not with the Pakistan Government that we talked: we talked with the cease-fire authorities. And to do anything else would be improper. So that is what we have done.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: The hon. the Defence Minister said just now that a civilized country does not shoot down planes of other countries violating its air space. In succession there have been air violations by Pakistani planes, and also by our northern neighbour, China. Does the hon. Minister mean to say that never the planes shall be shot down, whatever happens, whether they come in succession or in great number?

Shri Krishna Menon: I have no desire to answer the question in the same way as it is put. As usual, the kernel of it has been taken off. I said that we will not shoot them in the first instance. It is not the habit of civilized countries in peace time to shoot a plane just because it flies over your territory: you exhaust all other methods. And the first method is to register a violation with the cease-fire authorities. We are there under certain international agreements and our business is to report to the cease-fire authorities. And if they say that is no violation, it is an end of it. If they say that there is a violation, then we will see whether we can do something else. I would request the whole of the answer may be taken into account and not a part as has been done.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: We have got U. N. Observers in Kashmir. May I know what is their report in the matter and what action they have taken in the matter?

Shri Krishna Menon: That is what I have been keeping on saying. We have registered a violation with them. The proper procedure is that whenever a violation, either by troops or by planes, takes place on the cease-fire line which is against the cease-fire agreement, you register a complaint. It is called registering a violation. Then they investigate and either they give violation against them or against use, or they say there is no violation. What follows if the violation is against the Pakistan authorities I cannot say now, because the matter is under investigation.

Organised Infiltration into Assam

*180. **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have under their consideration a scheme to bring under check organised infiltration into Assam;