

Redressal Commission. A writ petition is also pending before the Supreme Court. The matter is *sub-judice*.

Financing of Jharkhand Movement

2286. CH. KHURSHID AHMED:
SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI
KHAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the report appearing in the Indian Express dated 13 January, 1989 regarding financing of the Jharkhand movement by certain voluntary organisations in the country receiving contributions from foreign donors; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The facts in this regard are being ascertained and a statement will be laid on the Table of the House.

IAF AN-32 Aircraft Accidents in 1986

2287. SHRI NARSING SURYAVANSI:
Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether two AN-32 Transport Aircrafts were missing—one at Leh in Ladakh (Jammu and Kashmir) on its way from Pathankot and another at Jamnagar on its way from Muscat (refuelling) in 1986;

the details of the enquiry report

about the missing aircrafts;

(c) whether it was a case of sabotage or technical disintegration during the flight;

(d) whether the same type of planes with some modifications were acquired again after the mishap;

(e) the estimated loss on account of the two planes; and

(f) what is India's assessment of the capability of the planes in rough weather?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The first aircraft was reported missing in J&K area on 22-3-86. On account of heavy snowfall in the area the wreckage could be finally located on 9-8-86. Bodies of all the 19 aircrew and passengers on board the ill-fated aircraft were also recovered. The accident was caused due to error of judgement on the part of the pilot. There was no evidence of any sabotage in this case.

In spite of massive air and sea search operations for the second aircraft reported missing over the Arabian sea, neither the aircraft nor its wreckage could be located. The aircraft was presumed to have crashed and the 7 crew members killed. In the absence of material evidence, the Court of Enquiry was not able to determine the exact cause of the accident. While the chances of the aircraft disintegrating in the air are very remote as the aircraft has been operating with IAF for nearly 5 years in all kinds of weather and terrain, sabotage though extremely remote, could not be ruled out.

(d) The mishaps were not attributable