

regard the anti-reservation stir going on in Bihar, it has become clear that the Jagannath Mishra Government in Bihar....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please raise this point when you speak on the Motion of thanks on President's Address. Now, please take your seat.

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Therefore, Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I demand that the Government of Bihar be dismissed without any delay.

12.22 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE—*CONTD*

[*English*]

Review of the working of and Annual Reports of Bengal Immunity Ltd., Calcutta, Hindustan Anti-biotics Ltd. and Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd. for 1988-89

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (a) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Bengal Immunity Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Bengal Immunity Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in the Library. See No. LT-37/89]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited, for the year 1988-89.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in the Library. See No. LT. 38/89]

- (c) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited, for the year 1988-89.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in the Library. See No. LT 39/89]

12.22 1/2 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER RE. ACCIDENT TO PAWAN HANS DAUPHIN HELICOPTER VT-ELO NEAR PATNA ON 15.12.1989

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): Sir, A Dauphin helicopter VT-ELO belonging to Pawan Hans Ltd., while operating ONGC chartered flight from Calcutta to Patna on 15.12.89 crashed into the river Ganges about six miles from Patna airport. All seven occupants on board are feared dead. The helicopter took off from Calcutta at 16.24 hrs. (IST) and was scheduled to arrive at Patna at 18.40 hrs. The last contact of the helicopter with Patna control was at 1828 hrs. Both the pilots were very

experienced and were holding current commercial helicopter pilot licence. Both were also Instrument Rated and night qualified. The Commander Capt. Ahluwalia had 5892 hours of total flying experience and 2168 hours experience on Dauphin helicopter. Major R.K. Baruah had 3244 hours of total flying experience and 1241 hours experience on Dauphin helicopter.

2. A report was received by Air Traffic Control Patna that an aircraft had crashed into the river Ganges about 10 miles from the airport. Airport officials immediately rushed to the site and a police guard was immediately posted. Salvage operation was organised thereafter. Next morning a team of Naval divers commenced salvage operation. Air Force helicopter and ONGC facilities were also pressed into service immediately to rescue the survivors and recover the wreckage of the helicopter. DGCA, Managing Director, Pawan Hans Ltd. and ONGC officials also reached the spot on the morning of 16th December, 1989 to co-ordinate the operations.

3. The depth of the water at the site was 20 feet. Further, local authorities, Navy, Air Force, Indian Inland Waterways Authority and Godawari Shipyard also participated in the search and rescue operation. Most of the wreckage of the helicopter has been recovered and has been brought to Patna airport for detailed examination. The bodies of five of the occupants had been recovered by 20th forenoon. The wreckage of the helicopter is being examined by officers of DGCA, Govt. of Bihar and Pawan Hans Ltd. Preliminary examination of the wreckage indicates the following:-

- i) There was no fire on board prior to the accident.
- ii) The tail portion of the helicopter was fairly intact with the tail rotor free to rotate.
- iii) The damage to the helicopter indicated a relatively low speed impact with water.

- iv) The altimeters of the pilot and co-pilot were not found set properly.
 - v) The pilot had not attempted an emergency landing.
4. Pawan Hans Ltd. has announced a compensation of Rs. 5 lakhs to the next of kin of both pilots and others. A sum of Rs. 1 lakh has already been paid in each case.
 5. Immediately after the accident the DGCA has appointed an Inspector of Accident to investigate the cause of the accident.
 6. Government has also decided to constitute a Committee of Inquiry to investigate the cause of the accident.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman & Nicobar Islands): Sir, during the first week of December, the service of 101 Lower Divisional Clerks were terminated in Andaman and Nicobar Islands. This has happened after the establishment of this Government. Another 40 Lower Divisional Clerks are facing the threat of termination now. In almost all the departments, the Government is retrenching the labourers who are working in various departments. I would like to draw the attention of this Government to restore the services of those LDCs immediately and to cancel the possible termination of other LDCs. Andaman and Nicobar Islands is a small territory and the main employment potential is with the Government. When the services of such a large number of people are terminated, it may have a serious repercussion in the Islands.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, now the House will take up Matters under Rule 377.