

appointed to investigate into the circumstances of crash of AI Jumbo Jet 'Kanishka'

the Rajya Sabha do elect one member of the Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit and resolves that the House do proceed to elect, in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, one member from among the members of the House to the said Joint Committee to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Shri Amarprosad Chakraborty."

2. I am further to inform the Lok Sabha that in pursuance of the above motion, Shri K. Gopalan, Member, Rajya Sabha, has been duly elected to the said Joint Committee,

12.06 hrs.

STATEMENT RE : FINDINGS OF THE 'COURT' APPOINTED TO INVESTIGATE INTO THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF CRASH OF AIR INDIA JUMBO JET 'KANISHKA' ON 23TH JUNE, 1985

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : Sir, on the morning of 23rd June 1985, Air India Boeing 747 aircraft VT-EFO 'Kanishka', was on a scheduled passenger flight (AI-182) from Montreal and was proceeding to London en route to Delhi and Bombay. The aircraft was being monitored on the radarscope of Shannon airport in Ireland. AT 0714 GMT it suddenly disappeared from the radarscope and the aircraft which was flying at an altitude of approximately 31,000 feet plunged into the Atlantic Ocean off the South West Coast of Ireland at position latitude 52° 3.6' N and longitude 12° 49' W. This was the worst air disaster in the history of Indian aviation wherein all the 307 passengers and 22 crew members perished.

The Government of India had appointed Justice B.N. Kirpal, Judge of the Delhi

High Court; to carry out a formal investigation into this accident. The Court was assisted by five assessors. It carried out detailed examination of the Digital Flight Data Recorder and Cockpit Voice Recorder. The entire wreckage lying at the bottom of the sea was mapped and photographed. Part of the wreckage was recovered and examined in detail at the facilities of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Bombay. In all, 13 witnesses were examined by the Court which included representatives of aircraft manufacturers, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Canadian Aviation Safety Board, Director General of Civil Aviation India, Air India, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Doctors of Royal Air Force, United Kingdom, and the Indian Air Force. Post mortem reports from the doctors from Ireland, report of Structures Group constituted by the Court, Cockpit Voice Recorder Analysis Reports of experts of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Canadian Aviation Safety Board, National Transportation Safety Board, U.S.A., and the Accident Investigation Branch of United Kingdom and the report of the Inspector of Accidents, Civil Aviation Department, India were examined by the Court. The Court visited Ireland and Narita Airport, Tokyo.

The Court has submitted its report on the 12th February, 1986 to the Government. All the five assessors have signed the report in token of their agreement with the conclusions and recommendations. There is no minute of dissent.

On the basis of the circumstantial and direct evidence, the Court has concluded that the accident was caused by an explosion of a bomb in the forward cargo hold of the aircraft. The Court has also made some recommendations. They relate to International Civil Aviation Organisation, International Air Transport Association, Airlines, Government and manufacturers of aircraft, on a matter like air safety, air security, etc. These recommendations are being examined by Government for further action.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri H.K.L. Bhagat.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Please include 'Maharashtra Governor' in the next week's business.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the week commencing 17th March, 1986, will consist of :

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Are you paying homage ? Why are you silent ?

MR. SPEAKER : He does not listen, Sir. Neither does he listen, nor does he let you listen.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Honestly, Sir, could you listen to even one word of what he read ?

MR. SPEAKER : I think, because you were there in the Business Advisory Committee, perhaps the thought that you knew about it.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : It was totally inaudible. I do not know what he has read.

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : I shall read as Prof. Madhu Dandavate speaks. With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the week commencing 17th March, 1986, will consist of :

- (1) Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.
- (2) Discussion on the Resolution seeking disapproval of the Ravi and Beas Waters Tribunal Ordinance, 1986 and consideration and passing of the Ravi and Beas Waters Tribunal Bill, 1986.
- (3) Discussion on the Resolutions seeking disapproval of the following Ordinances together with consideration and passing of Bills as passed by Rajya Sabha in replacement of them :

(a) The Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Amendment Ordinance, 1986.

(b) The Administrative Tribunals (Amendment) Ordinance, 1986.

(4) Discussion and voting of the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of :

(i) Petroleum and Natural Gas

(ii) External Affairs.

Are you satisfied now, my friend ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : If you had included 'Maharashtra Governor' I would have been very happy.

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : I hope it was not because of that, that you had asked me to read it again.

MR. SPEAKER : We now take up matters under Rule 377.

Dr. G.S. Rajhans.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur) : I request that the following may be included in next week's business :—

Every day thousands of labour come to Delhi from the Mithila region of North Bihar to look for jobs since there is acute unemployment there. Some of them stay in Delhi and the rest go to Punjab and Haryana in search of livelihood. They are exploited both in Delhi and in Punjab and Haryana.

In Delhi they are denied minimum wages and are asked to work 12/14 hours a day under very unhygienic conditions. They are not governed by any labour laws. There is no security of job, nor are they given facilities like provident fund and gratuity.

In Punjab and Haryana the touts of zamindars and big cultivators rope them in by making false promises. Once they reach the interior of Punjab and Haryana, they become bonded labour and for all practical purposes lead a life of helpless prisoners. They undergo untold miseries and cannot

get out of the clutches of their masters despite their best efforts.

As such, the Union Labour Ministry should give immediate attention to their plight.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : The following items may be included in the next week's business :

- (i) The considerable delay by the Government in implementing its assurance to increase the stagnant salaries and perks of the judges of the Supreme Court and High Court is a matter of great concern. I urge upon the Government to introduce and pass the required legislation in the next week.
- (ii) The next week business need also include consideration and passing of the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Bill, 1986 which has been warmly welcomed by Muslims in particular, who look forward to its early passage so that rabid communal forces and those who have totalitarian outlook do not exploit the delay for fomenting tensions.

[*Translation*]

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the following matter may be included in the next weeks business of the House.

The Country is facing acute shortage of A.T.S. medicine for the prevention of tetanus. As a result, life of a large number of people in Uttar Pradesh is in danger. The medicine which is generally available at Rs. 2.80 per ampoule, is being sold clandestinely at Rs. 30 per ampoule and still it is difficult to procure it. It is believed that the ATS manufacturing pharmaceuticals had requested the Government to raise the price by 25 to 30 paise per ampoule but as the Government did not permit it, the concerned pharmaceuticals have either stopped the manufacture of the said medicine or are manufacturing it in lesser quantity thereby reducing its supply and thus it is not easily available to the common man.

If an ordinary man falls victim to tetanus it is out of his reach to get treatment and ultimately he has to lose his life.

Therefore, I demand that the Central Government should take urgent steps to ensure that ATS is manufactured in adequate quantity to meet the demand and also supply it at fair price in order to save precious lives.

SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV (Morena) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, kindly include the following matter in that next week's business of the House.

Electricity is supplied to Chambal Division of Madhya Pradesh from Gandhi Sagar Dam which is 600 kms. away from Bhind and Morena. This causes great inconvenience to the consumers. Single pipe connections have not been provided in the house of Harijans and Adivasis in the area, in spite of the policies of Government in this regard, though about nine rivers like Chambal, Kuno etc. flow through Morena district. If Government installs thermal power stations in the area itself it can solve the problems of the people of Chambal Division.

[*English*]

SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER (Bangalore South) : The following item may be included in the next week's business :—

It is learnt that the Government of India is contemplating importation of machinery worth more than Rs. 26 crores in foreign exchange for a project coming up at Tirucharapally, even though the HMT which is the jewel of the public sector industry has offered to meet the requirements with the indigenous machine tools and with imported automation and computer equipment. It is ascertained that the HMT's offer is most competitive in all accounts technically, commercially, price-wise, in respect of foreign exchange saving, meeting the delivery requirements, etc.

I urge the Government to look into this matter and see that the project officials give encouragement to the public sector in our country and thus promote self-reliance.

SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH (Bombay North) : Sir, I would like to make the following submission for inclusion in next week's business :

Working of almost all the corporations and public undertakings under Central Government has gone from bad to worse. Most of them are making huge losses and wasting public money. Expenses of almost all the corporations and public undertakings have gone tremendously up. There is a need to check them.

Ways and means to improve the working of corporations and public undertakings under the Government, therefore, need to be discussed.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Sir, I beg to submit that the following matter of urgent public importance may please be included in the list of business of the House for the next week.

It is a matter of concern that meningitis has already taken epidemic form and is claiming large number of lives in this capital city itself. As it seems, people are penic-stricken without proper warning from the concerned authorities and proper publicity as to what precautions they should take. It is high time that medical authorities realised the seriousness of the disease and the situation prevailing in Delhi and other parts of the country, and undertake suitable measures, both preventive and curative, without further delay.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY (Hindupur) : Sir, the following item may be included in the next week's business :

Tungabhadra Board—its existence is a must for Rayalaseems

The President of India constituted this Board on 10-3-1955 and the Board has to take charge of and deal with all matters connected with the Tungabhadra Project which are common to both the State of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. It is intended to maintain the common portions of the canals and common distributories, and also generate hydro power and distribute the same, as also attend to the distribution of water between the two States—139

TMS to Karnataka and 73 TMS to Andhra Pradesh.

Karnataka is a State upstream and, therefore, has all the natural advantages while Andhra Pradesh being placed at the tail end, suffers from certain disadvantages.

If the Board is abolished, the interests of Andhra Pradesh will suffer heavily and Andhra Pradesh will be deprived of its rightful share of water. If the Board is abolished, Karnataka can draw more water at the cost of Andhra Pradesh because there will not be any authority to check the quantum of water drawn. Hence, Karnataka is interested in the abolition of the Board.

It is, therefore, requested that the Union Government may reject the plea of Karnataka and continue the Board to serve the just needs of both the States of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : Sir, I have very patiently heard all the submissions that have been made by the hon. Members and I will, of course, point them out to the Business Advisory Committee. Although it is for them to raise the matters, it is for the Business Advisory Committee to decide on the business. I will, however, suggest to the hon. Members for their consideration, whether they like it or they accept it or not, that there are going to be discussions, as they are already aware, on Demands for Grants of various Ministries and if they think it proper, they might be able to raise these matters there. But I shall bring all these to the notice of the Business Advisory Committee.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

[English]

Agricultural and Processed Food Products
Export Development Authority

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE
AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES
(**SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER**) : Sir, I beg to