

[Shri Karan Singh]

and Government have accepted it. A copy of the report is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4840/73]. It will be recalled that Air-India and the International Airports Authority had suspended some of their employees in connection with the stowaways incident. They and the other agencies concerned will now take further action in the light of the Commission's report.

Following the incident of the 3rd March 1973, prompt action was taken to strengthen security arrangements, particularly at the four international airports, and a task force was constituted consisting of representatives of the various authorities concerned to inspect the international airports and take action to remove security deficiencies. It has also been decided to induct the Central Industrial Security Force into the four international airports as quickly as possible.

SHRI S. A. SHAMIM (Srinagar): There has been another incident of the same type after this.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore): Is he not going to tell us who has been held responsible?

DR. KARAN SINGH: I have laid a copy of the Report on the Table of the House.

13.05 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 317

(i) SHORTAGE OF YARN AND FOODGRAINS IN MAHARASHTRA.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola): I would like to invite the attention of Government to the serious situation in Maharashtra, particularly in Nagpur and Malegaon also—on account of the severe food shortage and yarn shortage. Even the Chief Minister of Maharashtra is reported to have stated that the situation is serious, and as reported in the papers:

"Shri V. B. Naik maintained that this situation was caused on account of acute shortage of yarn and foodgrains.

Shri Naik said that the food situation

would improve in the State and the Centre had agreed to supply the State 18,000 tonnes of foodgrains to meet the bulk of the last month's quota."

I want to have this confirmed.

I would also like to invite the attention of the hon. Minister to the fact that the situation in Maharashtra is turning very serious. Incidents of looting are reported from Osmanabad, Sholapur, Bhir and other drought-stricken districts. Highway hold-ups have been reported from some of these districts where trucks and cars have been obstructed and looted by the affected people. Sir, kindly see the seriousness of the situation. I have personally seen in Nagpur that the foodgrains quota given to an individual in the ration shop is 2 k.g. for 15 days. Further, it includes milo and also *makka*. I have personally seen the *makka*; it was rotten and had fungus growth on it.

Already there is a cholera epidemic in Nagpur, the second capital of Maharashtra. Unless food and yarn are rushed to Maharashtra, particularly to Nagpur, the serious situation will worsen in the State. Therefore, we must take proper care.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Shankar Dayal Singh.

(INTERRUPTIONS)

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order. Mr. Deshmukh, you are not allowed. Why do you get up? I have called Shri Shankar Dayal Singh.

(ii) INCIDENTS AT CHIRKUNDA ON WEST BENGAL-BIHAR BORDER

श्री शंकर वयाल सिंह (चतरा) : मान्यवर देश के अनेक हिस्सों में हिंसात्मक घटनाएँ हुई हैं, लेकिन अभी कल बिहार और बंगाल की सीमा पर चिरकुंडा नामक स्थान पर जो दुर्घटना हुई है वह बहुत ही दुःखद है। चार मजदूर मारे गये हैं और अखबारों की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार 3 व्यक्तियों की लाश लेकर भीड़ भाग गयी। मैं सरकार का ध्यान इस आवश्यक विषय की ओर दिलाना चाहता हूँ। चिरकुंडा