

12.10 hrs.

RE: MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Ferozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to seek one clarification with regard to my adjournment motion. On my adjournment motion relating to the shooting down of a plane by Naga rebels, you have been pleased to send me word that you are admitting a Calling Attention Notice. May I submit, Sir, that there is a lot of difference between the two procedures. On a Calling Attention Notice the Government cannot be censured. The question here is that a plane has been shot down by the Naga rebels. The plane was engaged in dropping down ammunition and other materials to our people who have been besieged there by the Naga rebels—in the Kohima District. As I said, we cannot censure the Government on a Calling Attention Notice. If the Government have not got the information now you may be pleased to hold over this motion for tomorrow or the day after, but my request is that it should not be turned into a Calling Attention Notice.

Mr. Speaker: I do not think this is a matter where the Government ought to be censured. Therefore, I have allowed a Calling Attention Notice to be admitted. The hon. Minister will make a statement before the House, nothing more. It is for me to find out whether it is a matter where there is any delinquency on the part of the Government. I have decided that it is not so. The information will be supplied to the House.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: We have recently formulated a policy with regard to this area. We have agreed to form a separate Nagaland. Even after this policy has been framed there is trouble.

Shri Nath Pal (Rajapur): Sir, I have a very small submission. We would be very very happy to be assured by the hon. Defence Minister that everything is O.K. But the question becomes serious because it is the re-

bels—who are not a regular army—who could afford to shoot down a plane of the Indian Air Force. It is an extra-ordinary state of affairs. Are we to assume that the Indian Air Force is a game for anybody? Last year the Pakistanis shot down a plane. Now even the rebels who do not have enough arms have brought down an Indian plane. This raises grave issues about our Air Force. We want a proper statement from the Minister. The House is feeling anxious about our defence.

Mr. Speaker: I have asked the Defence Minister to make a proper statement.

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): As soon as operationally it is possible I will make a full statement to the House. It would not be in the interest of the defence of our country and the security of our forces to make half statements. There are so many misstatements already. No plane has been shot down, and the plane that has suffered is a transport plane dropping supplies, as any transport plane going in that speed can be shot down by rifle shots. What has happened to that plane is that the plane having been maimed had to crash land. That is different from shooting down. I will try and make a full statement before the House. I hope the House would not press me to make it against the interest of operational necessities.

12.13 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

COAL MINES (CONSERVATION AND SAFETY) AMENDMENT RULES

The Minister of Steel Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 990 dated the 27th August, 1960 making certain further amendments to the Coal Mines (Conservation and Safety) Rules, 1954, under sub-section (4) of Section 17 of the Coal Mines (Conservation and Safety) Act, 1952. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2342/60].