

involving violence by the mob towards the staff or the passengers.

In this connection two persons have been arrested.

STATEMENT RE AIR ACCIDENT
AT DUM DUM AIRPORT

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir): I deeply regret to state that on the 1st September, 1957, at 5.30 hours I.S.T. a British registered "Hermes" aircraft GAKFP belonging to Airworks Ltd. while landing at Dum Dum airport hit an Indian Airlines Corporation freighter Dakota VT-AUA which had lined up for take-off on the left runway. As a result of the impact Capt. B. Chowdhury, Co-Pilot S. Chowdhury and Radio Officer N. C. Chowdhury, of the Indian Airlines Corporation Dakota were killed while Steward T. Singh was seriously injured and succumbed to his injuries the following day. The Dakota was destroyed in the impact. There was, however, no fire. After the collision the Hermes aircraft touched down on the runway with a broken port under-carriage and damaged port engines. It finally came to rest on the international apron. Information available so far indicates that except for minor injuries to two passengers while disembarking no one else was hurt on the Hermes aircraft.

The Hermes aircraft took off from Palam for Calcutta at 0034 hours I.S.T. on the 1st September, 1957. It had 51 passengers including 12 children and 5 infants on board and 8 members of the crew, namely, Capt. Furber, Flight Officer Vines, Radio Officer Hunnable, Engineer Officer Riggostaf and two air hostesses. The flight continued normally until it contacted Dum Dum approach. The aircraft made an attempt to land by Instrument Landing System, but a missed approach was carried out. It subsequently attempted a landing under Radar control. Preliminary

inquiries made by the Chief Inspector of Accidents, who has reached Dum Dum, indicate that the Pilot was asked by the Control Tower to land on the runway to the right. The Pilot was in visual contact of the aerodrome from three miles at a height of 600 ft. He, however, landed on the left runway on which the Indian Airlines Corporation Dakota was lined up for takeoff

It has been decided to constitute a Court of Enquiry under rule 75 of the Indian Aircraft Rules with Shri S. N. Banerjee, a retired Judge of the Calcutta High Court. The Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation of the United Kingdom have been requested to send an accredited representative to be associated with the Court of Enquiry.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENT TO EX-
AMINE RECOMMENDATIONS OF
OFFICIAL LANGUAGE
COMMISSION

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of clause (4) of article 344 of the Constitution, the members of Lok Sabha do proceed to elect, in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, and in such manner as the Speaker may direct, twenty members from among themselves to be members of the Committee to examine the recommendations of the Official Language Commission and to report to the President their opinion thereon in accordance with clause (5) of the said article."

I know I have placed this proposal before the House in the form of a motion. It really seeks to carry out a mandatory provision of the Constitution. The Constitution says that a committee consisting of 20 members of this House and 10 members of the

[Pandit G. B. Pant]

Upper House to be elected in accordance with the principle of single transferable vote shall be constituted for examining and reporting upon the recommendations of the Language Commission. So, in fact, I am only requesting the House to take the necessary steps to give effect to that provision in the Constitution.

I see that there are two amendments, one by Krishnaswamiji and the other by Anthonyji. I think he will not dislike my calling him Anthonyji. We treat him as an Indian national in the fullest sense of the term. So far as the amendments go, I think they are technically inadmissible, because the Constitution itself lays down that the report will be submitted to the President and we cannot in any way infringe or go against the directions in the Constitution. But I myself would like to have the benefit of the opinion of this House before decisions are taken on the report. So, when it is received, it will be placed on the Table of the House and we should like it to be discussed by the House. I shall seek the permission of the President for that purpose, when the report becomes available. I have accepted the proposals of Krishnaswamiji and Anthonyji.

I myself had never wished to bypass the Parliament. After all, we are all subordinate to the Parliament and we would like to do whatever we can to have the co-operation and help of Parliament. Especially when matters of moment are concerned, it becomes all the more necessary to seek the guidance of Parliament. Of course, the ultimate responsibility for decisions will rest on the President, according to the Constitution. So, the discussion will have to be conducted in a manner which will be consistent with the discharge of that ultimate responsibility. With the permission of the President, I shall place the report before the House and it will be available for discussion.

Mr. Speaker: The amendments need not be formally moved. Both

of them are accepted. The hon. Minister gives an assurance for placing it on the Table and for discussion. He accepts both.

Shri Tangamanl (Madurai): I think the hon. Minister is accepting amendment No. 2.

Mr. Speaker: He accepts jointly both the amendments, one for placing the report on the Table and the other for discussion by the House.

Shri Tangamanl: Will it be laid on the Table before presenting it to the President?

Pandit G. B. Pant: It will be presented to the President and placed here with the permission of the President. We cannot go against the Constitution. I will seek his permission.

Mr. Speaker: Before the President comes to a conclusion, he will have the benefit of the discussion of this House.

Shri Yajnik (Ahmedabad): May I know how long this committee will take approximately to present the report?

Pandit G. B. Pant: Can anybody guess? I do not know how long the committee will take, who will be its members and what will be the rules to regulate their procedure. Of course, I shall submit to their wishes.

Mr. Speaker: It is a committee of this House.

Shri Khadiikar (Ahmednagar): Would it not be better if the report of the Commission is discussed earlier and then the committee go into it? With the President's permission, if this House is allowed to discuss the report of the Commission and then the committee go into it, the committee will get the benefit of this discussion also in reaching some concrete conclusions.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri (Berhampore): In support of what Mr. Khadiikar said, I may draw your

attention to a constitutional difficulty under sub-clauses (5) and (6) of article 344. Under sub-clause (5), it is the duty of the committee to examine the recommendations of the Commission and then they have to report to the President. The President has to act, under sub-clause (6); he may, after consideration of the report referred to in sub-clause (5), issue directions in accordance with the whole or any part of that report.

Mr. Speaker: How can the report of the Commission be discussed now? That is the difficulty. If that report cannot be discussed then, this report cannot be discussed now.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: There is nothing in the Constitution about the discussion of the Commission's report now by the House.

Mr. Speaker: There is no specific provision contemplated in the Constitution, but all the same, the powers of this House to scrutinise are there and they must be exercised. As the hon. Home Minister said, there is no intention to by-pass this House either. The Commission is only for the purpose of going round this country, gathering evidence and then place it before the President. As it is there is no provision for discussion at this stage or at the later stage, but the hon. Minister is quite frank. He does not want to avoid any discussion here. He is prepared to allow a discussion. I think it is proper that a committee of this House should look into this matter first. There are various things and if we enter into a discussion here, it may become endless. After all, it is our own committee, brought into existence by the principle of proportional representation, by a single transferable vote. Every section of the House will be represented there. It will be a miniature House. Let it discuss the report and make recommendations and then let us have a discussion. Otherwise, after the recommendations are made, we will have no opportunity. Once again at the later stage also, there is no provision.

As the hon. Home Minister said, both Dr. Krishnaswami and Mr. Anthony have rightly appreciated the situation that it would be in the interests of proper adjudication or decision to be taken by the President that, after the report is sent to us by our own committee, we have an opportunity. Otherwise, I feel it will be embarrassing to the members of our own committee, who are our own representatives. There might be conflicting opinions regarding a particular matter and what are they to decide in addition to the recommendations? Therefore, these amendments need not be accepted. The hon. Minister has given the assurance. I will put the motion to the House.

The question is.....

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Basirhat): Before you put the motion may I make a submission? Although the manner in which this Committee will be appointed will be on the basis of proportional representation, I would beg that all language groups should be represented on it and that there should not be any, sort of, one large chunk of people coming from one group alone. That is one thing which should be safeguarded.

Mr. Speaker: Instead of each Group setting up what it considers to be the proper spokesmen, all the leaders of these Groups may meet and arrive at the names who will not only be representative of their Groups and interests but also representative of all the language groups. That can be done. I am sure from time to time that is what is being done.

Pandit G. B. Pant: I have no objection. I hope every Group will concentrate on one particular language or two, so that the maximum number of languages may be covered.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: I do not follow. Unless there is co-ordination how will it be done?

Shri Khadilkar: In this particular representation we are not divided according to the languages. The fourteen languages must be treated on par so far as the representation in the Committee is concerned, and here regional questions or other political alignments should not be brought in.

Mr. Speaker: I am sure the heads of Groups may meet the hon. Minister and arrive at a particular conclusion. I shall advise the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to meet them and ascertain their views

Shri Rane (Buldana): I have already conveyed the desire of the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to almost all the Leaders of Opposition Groups that we want to see that all the languages recognised under the Constitution are represented on the Committee

Shri A. C. Guha (Barasat): Why only Opposition Groups? In the Congress Group also the language elements should be represented.

Pandit G. B. Pant: In fact twenty Members are to be elected by this House and ten by the other House. So the Parties that are represented here, as well as there, may discuss among themselves as to whom they would like to represent from their own party in this Committee. And when their wishes are known we will see what can be done in order to ensure the representation of other Groups. So it must be remembered that both Houses have to be represented, and it will be convenient if the parties which are represented in this House as well as in the other House see which of their representatives will be available for the assistance of this Committee and which languages they will represent, so that when we know their wishes we may try to adjust our own representation in a proper way. But if they wish to have any sort of consultations, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs will be at their disposal.

Shri S. V. Ramaswami (Salem): Is it understood that each one of the fourteen languages will have at least two representatives?

Pandit G. B. Pant: I may just say that there is no assurance about anything. An effort will be made to form this Committee in a fair way.

Shri Tangamani: Twenty is the limit laid by the Constitution.

Mr. Speaker: Let there not be any big discussion over this.

Shri P. K. Deo (Kalahandi): On a point of order. Before this Report is sent to the Committee, will it not be better if the President is requested to give an opportunity to this House, so that the deliberations of the House might help the Committee. If after the report is submitted by the Committee, this House gets an opportunity, and suppose this House gives an opinion and passes or rejects the report of the Committee, then the President would be put in a very awkward position as to whether he should accept the recommendation of the sovereign body or ...

Dr. Krishnaswami (Chingleput): The Constitution gives him the power.

Mr. Speaker: Evidently the hon. Member was not present when Shri T. K. Chaudhuri and Shri Khadilkar raised this point. The President wants, instead of the opinion of the House as a whole, the opinion of the Committee. Even when the report is submitted to the House we are not going to have resolutions passed as to what portions of the recommendations of the Committee ought to be accepted and what not. We are only generally going to express our opinions. It is for the Committee to make its recommendations. Now, at this stage to invite the President to give us once again an opportunity, will be too much. At this stage it is only exploratory. I said all this. I do not know where the hon. Member was. I am now putting the motion.

The question is:

"That in pursuance of clause (4) of article 344 of the Constitution, the members of Lok Sabha do proceed to elect, in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, and in such manner as the Speaker may direct, twenty members from among themselves to be members of the Committee to examine the recommendations of the Official Language Commission and to report to the President their opinion thereon in accordance with clause (5) of the said article"

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Speaker: It is free for hon. Members to make nominations, and after the nominations they can agree or some of them may withdraw if they so choose

EXPENDITURE TAX BILL—contd.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now proceed with the further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri T T Krishnamachari on the 31st August, 1957, namely:—

"That the Bill to provide for the levy of a tax on expenditure, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration."

Out of the four hours allotted, two hours have been availed of and two hours now remain. What time will the Finance Minister require for the reply?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): Twenty minutes

Mr. Speaker: Now it is 12-30

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: There are only two hours more for the general discussion

Mr. Speaker: Then I shall call upon him at about 2-10 p.m.

Shri M. C. Jain (Karthal): May we know the speakers who are to be called?

Mr. Speaker: I have not made up my mind. Hon. Members may get up in their seats when they want to speak

पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव (हिसार)

जनाब स्पीकर साहब, मैं प्रश्न से प्रश्न करना चाहता हूँ कि जनाबे वाला शिड्यूल का मुलाहिजा फरमाये और माय ही क्लाज़ ४(१), क्लाज़ ६(एफ) और क्लाज़ ६(जी) का भी मुलाहिजा फरमाये, तो रौशन होगा कि इस बिल में एक इंडिविजुअल और कलेक्शन ग्रॉफ इंडिविजुअल को एक ही बेसिस पर रखा गया है। चुनावों ३६००० रुपए की नेट ग्रामदानी जिन की होगी, उन पर यह टैक्स लगेगा। इस में कोई तमीज नहीं है कि वह ग्रामदानी एक की होगी या दस की होगी जो कि फॉर्मली को कास्टीट्यूट करते हैं।

क्लाज़ ४(१) में ५,००० की रकम दर्ज है, और क्लाज़ ६(एफ) में ५,००० की और क्लाज़ ६(जी) में ८,००० की रकम दर्ज है, जो कि मेडिकल ट्रीटमेंट और एजुकेशन के लिए है। उन में कोई तमीज नहीं की गई है। न मालूम ग्रान्सेबल फाइनेमिनिस्टर साहब ने यह तमीज क्यों नहीं रखा रखी। जहाँ तक कानडोर साहब का ताल्लुक है, जो कि इस बिल के प्युटेंटिव फादर हैं, उन का कहना है कि

"Unlike the income-tax the rates of taxation in the case of expenditure-tax ought to vary with the scale of expenditure per head rather than the total expenditure of the whole family unit. This means the adoption of the so-called quotient system, which is already applied in France for income-tax purposes according to which the income (or expenditure) of all members of the family is first aggregated and then divided into a number of parts, depending on the number of persons in each family, and the tax is charged separately on each part"