

[Shri Raj Bahadur]

STATEMENT

Shri Joshi said एकरफा निर्णय है। We have been talking every day. I still implore you. Please help me in eliminating these wasteful practices and in implementing the recommendations of the Public Undertakings Committee.

I am grateful to you forgiving me this opportunity on this last day because this clears up many doubts, it clears the air and everybody knows where we stand. We stand firm by this that we must provide safe adequate air service through IA with the maximum productivity and the maximum satisfaction to the public.

12.49 hrs.

MEMBER SWORN

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have been requested by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, and I understand that he had also the consent of the leaders of the Opposition, to interpose a calm and pleasant function into this storm, and that is to admit and to welcome a new member to this House. She happens to be an honourable lady. I think she has been watching the proceedings of this House; she has been the turbulence here. We welcome her. I can assure her that this House is a living and kicking House; there is never a day that is a dull day.

The Secretary-General will please call her name.

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Shrimati Premalabai Dajisaheb Chavan.

Member Sworn :

*Shrimati Premalabai Dajisaheb Chavan
(Karad).*

12.50 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. APPOINTMENT
OF COURT OF ENQUIRY ON LUFT-
HANSA BOEING CRASH IN DELHI

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order, please. Before we resume other items under rule 377, the Minister of Civil Aviation wants to make an announcement about the Lufthansa air crash the day before yesterday.

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATION AND TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): Sir, I beg to lay the statement on the Table of the House.

As I announced in the House earlier investigation into the causes and circumstances of the Lufthansa Boeing 707 crash at Delhi Airport on the 20th morning is being entrusted to a serving High Court Judge. It has now been decided that Shri Justice S. R. Rangarajan of the Delhi High Court shall be appointed as Court of Enquiry under rule 75 of the Aircraft Rules, 1937. The Court will be assisted by two assessors, Cp. Captain S. Das Sharma, who was a meteorological expert with the Air Force till recently, and Captain S.B. Chatterjee, Boeing 707 Commander of Air-India.

2. The Court will be requested to complete the investigation within eight weeks.

12.51 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377—contd.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There are a number of items still. Since there is a large number of them, I think I will call the names of the Members raising them and briefly mention the subject. Shri S.M. Banerjee, about the effects of the Supreme Court judgement in the DIR.

SHRI S.M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, you must have read in the newspapers—I have not got a copy of the judgment as such that the Supreme Court has declared by a majority of judges—that Parliament is under no obligation to prescribe the maximum period for which a person could be detained under the preventive detention law, under articles 22(7) of the Constitution. Taking advantage of this judgement, the Government can keep any person under detention for an indefinite period, when there is now an emergency. I request, therefore, that the hon. Minister of Law should make a statement today, whether the Government will take note of this judgement which is very unfortunate, so that the people are not detained for an indefinite period. If we do not take cognizance of the majority judgement and we do not attach importance to the minority judgement delivered by Mr. Justice Bhagwati, it will create a situation where, whatever be the law which is framed by Parliament for a particular individual under the DIR, the term can be extended to any period. So, I would urge that in the larger interests of parliamentary democracy the Minister of Law should make a statement today about the serious implications of the Supreme Court judgement.