

SHRI A.K. PANJA: The decision is this Sir. This being a non-utility service, there is a specific procedure laid down under the Act and the rules. When a notice was received from the employees' union on 9th of October, steps were immediately taken to make a settlement before starting conciliation proceedings because the experience of the Labour Minister and the Delhi Administration shows that many of the disputes are settled before starting the actual conciliation proceedings as envisaged under the Act. Then, Sir, Saturday and Sunday were holidays. 12th was Monday and on 13th they have had the sitting. On that day, unfortunately, the management raised an objection to the President's presence. The objection was never raised so far as the President was concerned in earlier negotiations on the ground that the President was an outsider and not a member of the staff. So, the meeting could not be held. Then the Labour machinery of Delhi Administration again tried to have a sitting and that had also taken place on 23rd October. When the discussion was going on the 23rd, it remained inconclusive. Thereafter, when it remained inconclusive, another date was fixed on the 25th. In the meantime, again, a new situation came in on 28th October. The management gave a letter that they are declaring lack-out. So, the whole situation became changed. In the meantime, on 28th there was a confrontation -- as you know it was reported in the press also-- and, therefore, a stage has not been set to apply any of the Sections of the Industrial Dispute Act for the Labour Ministry to go in.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in order to run the Indian Express newspaper, the Delhi Administration lathi-charged the workers and pushed them inside the premises forcefully while the labour dispute was going on and their charter of demands was under consideration. Was it proper on the part of the Administration to interfere under such a situation and to adopt tactics to force the workers to enter the premises of the Press? Will the hon. Minister take steps to check

recurrence of such incidents, because the Management in collusion with the Administration has used coercive tactics to stall the long standing demands of the workers?

[English]

SHRI A.K. PANJA: So far as the Delhi Administration Labour machinery is concerned, I am supposed to answer that part. We have coordination with the Labour Machinery. So far as we are concerned, there is no such interference on our part of taking outsiders or interfere with the strike or to break the strike.

SHRI C. MADHAVA REDDI: Sir, there were reports that even after settlement of dispute, the workers had not been allowed to enter the premises of the Indian Express. May I know whether the hon. Minister knows about it and what is the reason for not allowing the workers to enter into the premises of Indian Express?

SHRI A.K. PANJA: Sir, so far as the settlement of dispute is concerned, there is a conflicting claim. The General Secretary who has been thrown out by the president, wrote only on the 18th of November that they are calling off the strike and they want to discuss with the management. So far as the president is concerned, he is saying that he is continuing and there has been no settlement. This is the position. As you know, under Section 12 or under Section 10 for Government to act *suo motu* and there has to be formation of opinion, issues are required. Now, if there is a conflict between the two, there is no crystallisation of the dispute concerned and therefore we cannot take any action.

Loaning out of turbo-prop planes by I.A. to Vayudoot

*236. SHRI MANIK REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines propose to loan its turbo-prop planes to Vayudoot; and

(b) whether the Vayudoot's package

tour programme to attract more tourists has been a success?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) There is no proposal for the loaning of Indian Airlines turbo prop planes to Vayudoot. The turbo-prop aircraft in the fleet of Indian Airlines are, however, being transferred to Vayudoot in phases. So far, 4 HS-748 and 3 F-27 aircraft have been transferred to Vayudoot.

(b) Yes, Sir.

SHRI MANIK REDDY: Mr. Speaker, Sir. I would like to know from the hon. Minister in what way the Vayudoot package programme has been a success. I want details from the hon. Minister.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, Vayudoot as such do not run any package tours. These are clubbed with the existing tours and the reports available with us indicate that it is more or less running successful, specially there is a Himalayan flight which is very popular.

SHRI MANIK REDDY: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any proposal to introduce Vayudoot in any new place in Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: There are various proposals before the Vayudoot. But it depends on the availability of aircrafts as well as availability of finance.

The list I have got with me is a very big list. I can lay it on the Table of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes.

(Interruptions)

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: Sir, he did not answer about Andhra Pradesh.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: I will lay it on the Table of the House. There are

Andhra Pradesh and other States. I shall lay it on the Table.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN PANDEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the hon. Minister aware that due to the timings of the air services not being suitable, some of the services have become unsuccessful? If not, I would like to cite an example.

MR. SPEAKER: Just now a question was put on this subject and a decision was taken in this regard.

SHRI MADAN PANDEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Vayudoot is involved in it. Vayudoot was operating services to Gorakhpur thrice a week and for the rest of the three days there was regular service. They changed its timings in such a manner that Vayudoot services were stopped. With a view to making the service to Gorakhpur unsuccessful, they have re-routed it via Allahabad. I do not know what sort of enmity they have got with us and what are the reasons behind this change. If at all anybody wants to go, his whole day goes waste from either side. Keeping all these points in view, will the hon. Minister please connect Gorakhpur with Vayudoot in case the aircrafts are not available for regular service?

MR. SPEAKER: It has no relation with this question.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: It is not connected with this particular question.

EEC Aid for Operation Flood Programme

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*238. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN:
SHRI CHINTAMANI
JENA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the European Economic Community (EEC) is assisting the country for Operation Flood Programme;