

and Farooq Shah Road, comes to about Rs. 2 lakhs in a year. Whether patients go or not, doctors have to be there. Even with all the 750 hon. Members contributing to the scheme, the annual income comes to only Rs. 45,000 per year. Whether we have the scheme or we do not have the scheme is another matter.

Shri Ranga: We want to have the scheme.

Shri Karmarkar: If we are having the scheme, I do not know whether the House will consider it reasonable to have an income of Rs. 20,000 and spend Rs 2 lakhs of the taxpayer's money.

Shri Ranga: What is the latest position? Is it open to us to subscribe?

Mr. Speaker: Why do the hon Members not follow the questions and answers which are given here. The hon Minister read out four items which are under consideration of the Joint Committee of Both Houses on the question of salaries and allowances of hon Members. They have to decide. The implications are that three hospitals will have to be opened and the charges will be made for all the months at the rate of Rs 5 per month. Further questions have not been put to the hon Minister as to what are the advantages. Every blessed medicine will be purchased for the Members and hospital provision also will be available. Some hon Members had written to me that at midnight they had some trouble, they had to go to the Willingdon Hospital and the hospital authorities charged them Rs 150, Rs 200 and all that. All that will disappear hereafter.

Shri Barrow: Why should there be compulsion?

Mr. Speaker: Without compulsion only two people will join. I cannot allow that there should be a hospital for them. Hon. Members think that they will be paying enormously, but they forget that they will get a lot of benefit. I can send to hon. Members, whoever wants it, the papers that I have received complaining about difficulties, when they got

some trouble. I am sure no hon. Member will escape it. When they go to a hospital they will realise that they have to pay through the nose Rs. 300, Rs. 400 and so on, whereas they will escape all that by a mere payment of Rs 5. If hon. Members who discharge the duties for the whole country say so, what am I to say.

Unauthorized Flight from Tezpur

S.N.Q.No. 29. **Shri Amar:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a foreign journalist took off his private plane from the Tezpur Aerodrome without the permission of the Authorities recently;

(b) whether it is a fact that there was no officer on the control tower on that day when the plane took off; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) Yes, Sir, an Indian Registered aircraft, presumably, on charter, carrying two foreign journalists, took off from Tezpur without prior permission of the aeronautical authorities on the 13th April, 1981.

(b) and (c) The Control Tower at Tezpur, which is an aerodrome of comparatively lesser importance, normally operates between the hours of 9-30 to 12-30 and 14-30 to 16-30 IST. Nevertheless, in case of emergency, the required information regarding the flight could be given to the Officer-in-charge at the aerodrome. But the Pilot failed to do so.

Disciplinary action has been initiated against the pilot.

Shri Amar: May I know whether it is a fact that the plane flew over the prohibited area of NEFA without the permission of Government?

Shri Mohiuddin: No, Sir; it is not a fact as far as we know about it.

Shri Amar: May I know who is the journalist and to which country he belongs?

Shri Mohiuddin: My information is that there was one Britisher and one French journalist.

Shri Assar: May I know what steps Government have taken to prevent recurrences of the same incident?

Shri Mohiuddin: As I have already stated, disciplinary action against the pilot has been initiated, and the Government will see that unauthorised flights as it happened in this case do not take place.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether it is a fact that the aircraft commissioned by these journalists belongs to a European tea planter of the area; if so, whether any action has been taken against that gentleman for lending the aircraft for unauthorised flights?

Shri Mohiuddin: My information is that this aircraft belongs to the Darbhanga Airways. And, as it is reported that presumably it was a chartered plane, necessary enquiries are also being made against the owner as to the facts about the charter.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: May I know how many chartered planes, chartered by various journalists, flew over Tezpur during the last 15 or 20 days?

Shri Mohiuddin: I would require notice to answer that question.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Have the Government come to any conclusion about the purpose of the visit of the foreign correspondents, and may I know whether it is a fact that they wanted to contact Dalai Lama?

Shri Mohiuddin: I am afraid, Sir, it is rather very difficult for me to answer the purpose for which people go out. But the flight did take place, and it came back within a short period and landed again at Tezpur.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether the journalists who chartered the aircraft like that for unauthorised flights have submitted any explanation to the Government after they were detected?

Shri Mohiuddin: Explanation has been asked from the pilot and the owners of the aircraft.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: After the plane took off from Tezpur illegally and returned, may I know in what way we have the possibility of detecting the exact route of the flight? Also, how are we quite sure of the fact that they did not fly over prohibited area?

Shri Mohiuddin: My information is that it took off and went to Mesmaria, which is outside the prohibited area, and came back. That is the information available with the Ministry.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to a newspaper story that one of the journalists in this aircraft was dropped somewhere near Tawang; if so, whether he has been detected, because there was an attempt, the newspapers said, to discover him in the Dalai Lama's crowds, but there was no such discovery.

Shri Mohiuddin: Not from this plane.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Prices of Vegetable Oils

*1999. **Shri Pangarkar:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the retail prices of vegetable oils have gone up in the markets during the last three months; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jais): (a) Retail prices of vegetable oils are not available, wholesale prices of major edible vegetable oils, viz. groundnut oil, sesamum oil and mustard oil, have moved upward in the last three months. Those of linseed oil and castor oil have not shown any rise.

(b) The Government is keeping a watch on the movement of prices of