

(d) if so, the findings in each case?

**The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon):** (a) and (b). Four I.A.F. planes have been involved in flying accidents. The details are given in the statement laid on the Table of the House.

#### STATEMENT

(1) A flying accident involving a Canberra aircraft, while on training flight, occurred at 0839 hours on 7th July, 1962, near village Khapa, 10 miles North of Junar Deo Railway Station between Chindwara and Hosangabad in Madhya Pradesh. The pilot and the navigator on board the aircraft were killed and the aircraft was destroyed.

(2) A flying accident involving a Dakota aircraft, while engaged on operational flight, occurred near Towang Dropping Zone in NEFA area at 0810 hours on 12th July, 1962. The pilot, co-pilot and a member of the ejection crew were killed. The remaining three members of the ejection crew sustained serious injuries. The aircraft was damaged beyond repair.

(3) A flying accident involving a Mystero aircraft, while on training flight, occurred approximately 2 miles East of Kamtipuda (West Bengal) at 0800 hours on 24th July, 1962. The pilot, the sole occupant, ejected safely but the aircraft was destroyed.

(4) A flying accident involving a Toofani aircraft, while on training flight, occurred 2 miles N.W. Missamari airfield (in Assam) at 1240 hours on 27th July, 1962. The pilot was killed. As a result of the aircraft falling on a hut, 7 civilians were also killed. The aircraft was destroyed and one hut was damaged.

(c) and (d). Courts of Enquiry have been ordered in each case. The findings of the courts of Enquiry are awaited.

#### Hindustan-Tibet Road

950. { **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:**  
**Shri Raghunath Singh:**

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) when the construction of the Hindustan-Tibet road began;

(b) the progress of the work up to date;

(c) the number of casualties so far; and

(d) when the road construction is expected to be completed?

**The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon):** (a) The Construction began in 1951.

(b) and (d). Progress on this project is satisfactory. It is not possible in the circumstances of such construction to forecast date of completion.

(c) There have been some casualties due to accidents but their number is not large in relation to the dimensions of the task and the nature of the terrain.

#### Election Petitions

951. **Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) how many election petitions were filed during the period from 1957 to 1962 so far;

(b) the maximum time taken in the final disposal of an election petition during the above period; and

(c) the average time taken for the disposal of an election petition?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Law (Shri Bibhudendra Mishra):** (a) 904.

(b) 1441 days.

(c) Approximately 8 months and 13 days.