

incident. A small child had gone and fiddled with the emergency latch in the front. So, that particular window dropped out. Some child had done it and that was how it happened.

It is a 19-seater aircraft. It is true, we do not have attendants because Vayudoot was started as a bush operation. That is a hopping aircraft; after 20 minutes it lands; it hops and lands. So, it is not necessary—nowhere in the world it is done—when you have a bush operation service, to have an attendant. As far as the rules are concerned, I would like to confess that we are supposed to have that, but that also we had taken up with the Director General, Civil Aviation; we had a meeting with our counterpart in the Ministry where the understanding was that we can do without it. But, let me tell you, according to the Aircraft Act, we are supposed to have when we have more than ten people as passengers. But since our reason was different, to start the aircraft service as the bush operation, and because nowhere in the world people had taken permission that they should be allowed to be considered, that process. I would say, was not completed. But now we have started sending a technician.

As far as spare parts are concerned, we had difficulty in spare parts. The spare parts were not available. We tried to get as quickly as possible from the garage people. Some of the other delays were administrative delays, and we had told the Vayudoot people to take it up very strictly with the company. Recently we have got the spare parts.

I would like to inform the Hon. Members that, like I said initially, when we go in for engines and spare parts, it is usually the Defence Ministry which does. Directly we do indent occasionally. So, my concern is as much as that of the other Hon. Members to see that aircraft run safely; the passengers must feel secure that they are going in a very safe aircraft, and we will make sure that never do we take a chance with people's lives.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY

AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): Sir, I propose that the lunch-break be dispensed with today.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I hope, the House agrees...

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is agreed.

13.00 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (i) Need to issue necessary instructions to Kamptee Cantonment Board authorities to stop collecting taxes on movement of goods and also to remove barrier installed on Nagpur Jabalpur National Highway

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT (Nagpur) : Nagpur-Jabalpur National Highway passes by the side of the Kamptee Military Contonment. Kamptee Contonment Board has put a barrier on the National Highway for the last six months. The Contonment Board authorities are collecting heavy taxes on all goods and even a basket full vegetables which is carried by the agriculturists is taxed heavily. A great deal of inconvenience is caused in the matter of smooth running of the vehicles on the National Highway. Due to putting up of barrier and collection of tax, poor citizens are subjected to double taxation—first by Civic Body and then by Kamptee Contonment Board. This sort of double taxation is rarely found elsewhere in the country and has resulted in discontent among the citizens of Kamptee.

I therefore urge the Central Government to issue necessary instruction to the Kamptee Contonment Board to stop collecting taxes. The barrier which has been put on the National Highway should also be removed so that the flow of vehicles on the National Highway is streamlined.