

10.02 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MAT-
TERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IM-
PORTANCE(i) REPORTED FIRING BY NEPALI SOL-
DIERS AT MIRIS (DARJEELING)

श्री बागड़ी (हिसार) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं नियम १६७ के अन्तर्गत प्रधान मन्त्री का ध्यान निम्न अविलम्बनीय लोक महत्व के विषय की ओर आकृष्ट करता हूँ और चाहता हूँ कि वह इस सम्बन्ध में अपना वक्तव्य दें :—

“नेपाली सैनिकों द्वारा भारतीय क्षेत्र में दार्जिलिंग जिले के मिरिस थाने के अन्तर्गत एक झोंपड़े पर गोलियाँ चलाना और फलस्वरूप दो भारतीयों की मृत्यु”

प्रधान मन्त्री तथा वंदेशिक कार्य मंत्री तथा अणु शक्ति मन्त्री (श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू) : इस मामले में हमारे पास कोई अधिक इतिला नहीं आई है। हमने तार देकर पूछा है और वहाँ तहकीकात इसकी शुरू की गई है। जैसे ही कुछ मालूम हो जाएगा हम यहाँ रख देंगे।

श्री बागड़ी : अध्यक्ष महोदय....

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अभी इतिला नहीं आई है। इसको मंगवा कर हाउस के सामने रख दिया जाएगा।

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू : ज्यादा इतिला नहीं आई है। कुछ आई है। ज्यादा तहकीकात हम कर रहे हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : क्या यह सही है कि दो की मृत्यु हुई ?

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू : जो नहीं। जहाँ तक मुझे मालूम है.....

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): My information is....

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू : एक जख्मी हुआ और एक मारा गया।

श्री बागड़ी : तीन दिन हुए जबकि अखबारों में इस के बारे में संक्षिप्त सी खबर आ गई थी। अखबारों के तो सरकार के मुकाबले में कम जानकारी के साधन हैं जबकि केन्द्र के पास राज्य सरकारें भी हैं तथा दूसरे और भी साधन हैं, इन चीजों का मालूम करने के। अगर अब तक खबर नहीं आई है तो कितने दिनों में खबर पहुंच जाएगी।

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू : इसकी सूचना हमें बंगाल गवर्नमेंट के द्वारा ही मिल सकती है। उनसे हम ने इसको फौरन मांगा है। उनका जवाब अभी तक नहीं आया है। वे तहकीकात कर रहे हैं। इसके अलावा हमने इंटेलीजेंस ब्यूरो को भी कहा है कि वे तहकीकात करें और वे भी कर रहे हैं। हमारे पास ज्यादा इतिला नहीं आई है। उनका जवाब अभी नहीं आया है।

Shri Hem Barua: May I submit, Sir, this incident took place on the 24th of August. Now, it is the 29th. My information is this. Out of these two men hit by the bullets of the Nepalese forces, one was heavily injured and he was taken to the hospital and he died there. May I request the Prime Minister to ascertain whether that man died or not so as to make a fuller statement.

Mr. Speaker: The Bengal Government have been addressed. Some information has been sent. The rest is being awaited.

Shri Hem Barua: Whether that man died.

Mr. Speaker: The Prime Minister said that one was injured. He wants to find out what happened to the injured man.

Shri Hem Barua: At the same time, may I submit, this was on the 24th. West Bengal is not far away from New Delhi. Why should it take such a long time to have this information?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The Darjeeling Nepal border is fairly far away. Distance does not make much difference.

Shri Hem Barua: There is a police station in Miri where this happened. Information can be obtained from there. I think the Government of West Bengal has sufficient source of information from this district of Darjeeling.

Mr. Speaker: Government would get that information as soon as it is possible.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia (Sikar): May I know whether it has anything to do with the anti-Indian propaganda in the Nepalese press, and if so, whether Government have protested against it?

Mr. Speaker: This refers to a particular incident.

श्री रघुनथ सिंह (वाराणसी) : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि ये जो लोग हताहत हुए हैं ये भारतीय हैं या नेपाली हैं ?

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू : गालिबन भारतीय होंगे । लेकिन इसका जवाब पूरी तहकीकात के बाद ही दिया जा सकता है ।

(ii) REPORTED MISSING OF ROYAL NEPALESE AIRLINES AIRCRAFT

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Sir, under rule 197, I call the attention of the Prime Minister to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The reported missing of an aircraft of the Nepal Royal Airlines with Indian Inspector of Accidents, First Secretary of the Indian Embassy, Nepal and four others on board."

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The news of the missing aircraft was first telephoned by our Ambassador in Nepal on the morning of Monday, the 27th August. Immediately, the Air Force

and the Department of Civil Aviation were requested to join in the search. Continuing bad weather since Sunday has hampered the search operations.

The following details about the missing plane have been received from the Director-General of Civil Aviation. The plane, a Pilatus Porter, belonging to the Government of Nepal was on a flight from Pokhara to Dhorpatan where a Royal Nepalese Airlines Dakota crashed on August 1st, 1962. The plane was under the command of Captain Ravi Randhawa, an experienced Indian pilot. It took off from Pokhara at 3 P.M. on Sunday, August, 26th, but failed to land at the air-strip in the Dhorpatan valley.

The six-man team on board was on its way to the site of the wreckage of the RNA Dakota for on-the-spot investigations into the cause of the crash. Among the passengers were Shri A. M. N. Shastri and Shri B. D. Sharma, First Secretary in our Embassy in Nepal. The services of Shri Shastri had been lent by the Government of India to the Government of Nepal for helping in conducting the enquiry into the cause of the Dakota crash. He is an officer of the Directorate of Civil Aviation. The names of the Nepalese officers on board have not so far been released by the Government of Nepal.

Indian Air Force planes are ready to join in the search as soon as the weather clears up. Since both the take-off and the expected landing points are in Nepal territory, IAF planes have positioned themselves to take part in the search operations at the request of the Government of Nepal.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether any IAF plane had already flown in search of this plane?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Several times they have tried to go there, but the weather has been so bad that neither the Nepalese planes nor our planes have actually been able to go round about that particular area.