

Committee on housing in their meeting held on 19-2-1963 have recommended certain increases in the ceiling costs and the matter is being examined.

(b) Soon.

Regional Hospital at Ramagundam

1362. **Shri Eswara Reddy:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) when the Coal Mines Welfare Organisation propose to undertake the construction of a Regional Hospital at Ramagundam;

(b) whether there is any provision in the budget for 1963-64 for undertaking this work; and

(c) if so, the amount and when the hospital is likely to be opened for admission?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour and Employment (Shri R. K. Malviya): (a) Tenders for the construction work will be called for shortly and construction will start soon after the tenders have been accepted.

(b) Yes.

(c) Rs. 1,50,000. 18 months after the construction work starts.

Quarters for Staff of Coal Mines at Kothagudam

1363. **Shri Eswara Reddy:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of residential quarters for the staff of Coal Mines Welfare Organisation at Kothagudam, Andhra Pradesh has been inordinately delayed;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to expedite the construction; and

(c) the estimated cost of the quarters proposed to be constructed?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour and Employment (Shri R. K. Malviya): (a) No. The proposal was received in April, 1962 and

the plans and estimates had to be examined in consultation with the C.P.W.D. authorities.

(b) Expenditure sanction has since been issued.

(c) Rs. 2,11,855.

12 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

CRASH OF AN IAF JET AIRCRAFT

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah (Adoni): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Defence to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

The reported crash of an I.A.F. jet aircraft on the 29th March, 1963 in New Delhi resulting in the death of the pilot.

The Minister of Defence (Shri Y. B. Chavan): Mr. Speaker, Sir,

I regret to inform the House that a flying accident involving an I.A.F. Vampire aircraft occurred at 14.48 hours on 29-3-1963 near Delhi Cantt. Railway Station. The aircraft was on a ferry flight from Kanpur to Pona. The only person who was on board the aircraft was the pilot of the aircraft and he was unfortunately killed. The next-of-kin has been informed. The aircraft was destroyed beyond economical repairs. The pilot had a total of 350 hours flying experience, out of which 125 hours experience was on Vampire aircraft.

2. In accordance with Air Force Rules a Court of Inquiry has been ordered. The cause of the accident and other details will be known when the proceedings of the Court of Inquiry are received. There was no loss of civilian life as a result of this accident. Some damage has been caused to certain railway property and to the telephone lines running along the railway track. The Court of Inquiry will cover this aspect also.

3. The exact extent of damage caused will be assessed by the Court of Inquiry. The cost of the aircraft involved in the accident is approximately rupees four lakhs.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: May I know whether this aircraft crashed because the pilot did not have sufficient training?

Mr. Speaker: He has given the extent of the training that the pilot had and also his experience. Has he any other question to put?

Let us go to the next item of business.

12.02 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE.

CHINESE NOTE AND GOVERNMENT OF INDIA'S REPLY THERETO

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers:—

- (i) Chinese note dated the 24th March, 1963.
- (ii) Government of India's reply dated the 29th March, 1963.

[Placed in Library, see No. LT-1049/63].

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): Sir, I rise on a point of information. Mr. Speaker, may I ask, in all earnestness, whether the Prime Minister proposes to lay on the Table today,—perhaps it is impossible tomorrow, being a holiday—because the papers have reported about it, the note that has been handed over to the Charge de'Affaires do not know why the House should not be taken into confidence—about the Chinese manoeuvres and their intrigues on the Sikkim-Tibet Border? Today's papers say that the Chinese Charge de'Affaires was called by the Government to the External Affairs Ministry and the Government handed him

a note. Why should not this note be placed on the Table of the House as soon as it was given by the Government? What is wrong in it? Why should this epistolary battle be carried on behind the back of the House?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The fact that a note has been delivered may be announced in the Press, but the note itself is published or placed before the House after a few days of delivery. That is the normal custom.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: It is announced first by the papers and then we get it. Why should this happen every time?

Mr. Speaker: He said that a note had been sent.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: The papers have published it.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): Some of the contents are reported in the newspapers.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: We are treated as a poor relation. The Parliament is treated as a poor relation.

Mr. Speaker: There have been complaints many a time and an answer has been given that a non-official publication may appear in the newspapers.

Shri Hem Barua: But this is from an External Affairs Ministry spokesman.

Mr. Speaker: There are certain etiquettes to be observed and certain obligations to be discharged when an official statement is to be made by the Government itself. Therefore, the Prime Minister has said that it is customary to release it, or lay it on the Table of the House after a few days. That would be done.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Would you not be pleased to hold that when the House is sitting the spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry should not release it first to the press? This is an important matter.