

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 (Hosangabad): 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.

Shri Ranga (Chittoor): It is difficult for us to decide what importance we should attach to the word "customary". Who has started this custom? It is the Prime Minister who must have started it. You should not allow the Prime Minister, or any other Minister for the matter of that, to take advantage of any kind of indifference that might have been shown to the House in the past. Not taking such a thing to task is not fair. This kind of important intimation should, first of all, come,—or leak out, whatever it is—to the House. Then we should.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I have heard him as also the other hon. Members. The only thing that emerges from all these objections is that if the information to the press leaks out from other sources, non-official sources.....

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Official sources; Ministry Spokesmen.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I have not spoken, I have not even finished a sentence and I am interrupted. Then I am told that I am too hasty.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: I am sorry.

Shri Ranga: But if you had started with the word "official" instead of "non-official" we would not have risen and raised our objections. When it is persistently said that it was non-official, then we have to raise objection.

Mr. Speaker: Have I ever said that this particular one was non-official?

Shri Ranga: I do not know what you have said.

Mr. Speaker: If he does not know that then why should he object?

Shri Ranga: When you said "non-official", . . . (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Now he will resume his seat. I was going to say that out of all these objections there are two things that emerge. One is that sometimes it so happens that the information might leak out

to the press, the press might use it and publish it in some way. In that case, I am not going to ask Government that they should lay the official version before the House, if something has appeared in the press. But if it is the External Affairs Ministry, or some other Ministry, which gives that information then, certainly, I have to say that this House is entitled to get that information first.

Sri Hari Vishnu Kamath: I hope in future they will show greater respect to the House, and not disdain.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

STATEMENT CORRECTING REPLY TO SUPPLEMENTARY ON STARRED QUESTION - No. 34

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Hajarnavis): Sir, on behalf of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri I beg to lay on the Table a statement correcting the reply given on the 20th February, 1963, to a supplementary by Shri Prakash Vir Shastri on Starred Question No. 34 regarding Pakistani infiltration in Assam.

STATEMENT

२० फरवरी, १९६३ को लोक सभा में तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ३४ पर श्री प्रकाश वीर शास्त्री द्वारा पूछे गये एक अनुपूरक प्रश्न के उत्तर में यह कहा गया था, कि पिछले दो मास के दौरान में अवैध रूप से बसे हुए लगभग १२,००० पाकिस्तानी प्रथम छोड़ कर चले गये। सहो स्थिति यह है, कि यह संख्या जनवरी से दिसम्बर, १९६२ के चारह मास के दौरान में गये व्यक्तियों की है।

[In reply to a supplementary Question by Shri Prakash Vir Shastri on Starred Question No. 34 in the Lok Sabha on the 20th February, 1963, it was stated that about 12,000 Pakistani infiltrants left Assam during the last two months. The correct position is that this number left during a period of 12 months, from January to December, 1962.]