

Attempted Sabotage of Pan American Boeing-747 over Burma

*245. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian businessman, identified as Shri Gobind Ram Dang of New Delhi, has confessed to the attempted sabotage of a Pan American Airways Boeing-747 Jumbo Jet over Burma; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): (a) and (b). According to our information Shri Gobind Ram Dang an Indian national is reported to have confessed to the Thai authorities that he made an unsuccessful attempt to blow up the aircraft when he was aboard Pan Am flight 001 on February 2, 1975 when the aircraft was approximately over Rangoon. The aircraft returned to Bangkok and he is presently in the custody of the Thai authorities.

Expansion of Special Steel Plant at Rourkela

*246. SHRI GAJADHAR MAJHI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Steel Authority of India Limited has drawn up a long-term expansion programme for the Special Steel Plant at Rourkela; and

(b) if so, the estimated cost as well as the foreign exchange component thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) The estimated cost is Rs. 35.1 crores including foreign exchange of Rs. 9.0 crores.

Verification of Membership of Trade Union Organisations

*252. SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) when the next verification of membership of various central trade union organisations will be undertaken; and

(b) how Government propose to overcome the obstacles in conducting the verification?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) and (b). The whole matter is under examination.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ram Gopal Reddy.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Question No. 257.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are deliberately interrupting the proceedings of the House.

(Interruptions)

Buying of Ships from GDR

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*257. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:

SHRI R. S. PANDEY:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether an official team headed by the Secretary of his Ministry visited G.D.R. to buy ships; and

(b) if so, the results of the visit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI): (a) and (b). During its recent visit to G.D.R., a team led by the Secretary, Ministry of Shipping and