

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Uttar Pradesh) : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I want to ask only one question about this.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : He has enumerated the action that has been taken. Yesterday you raised it.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Mr. Deputy Chairman, his statement is in response to the wishes of the House and in response to the discussion made in this House. Yesterday a very valid point was raised. I asked the hon. Minister who was responsible to order the crew to proceed to Cairo instead of coming back to Delhi. At what level was this decision taken and why was this decision taken? If it was a lapse, may I know whether that officer has been suspended or not? That is No. 1. No. 2, Mr. Lokanath Misra is not here now. Allegations were made against Indian Airlines and repeated requests were made about it. Mr. Deputy Chairman, I am very glad that the Minister has taken a courageous and bold step and a right step. As Ganga Babu said, perhaps for the first time he acted on his own. I shall request him, through you, that he should not fall into the trap of his Secretary and Joint Secretary. I do not know them. They are trying to bring the whole organisation into a mess. Because Mr. Alva said some things yesterday I am going to bring out all the facts and show how things are happening. There is a definite racket in this department which is going on. On these two points, viz., what about the IA enquiry and who was the person who allowed this thing to happen, I want a clarification.

DR. KARAN SINGH : The person who took the decision to allow the plane to go on was the Airport Manager at Santa Cruz Mr. H. K. Malik. He is one of the persons who have been placed under suspension. With regard to the second point, I have called for the papers. Six employees of Indian Airlines were charge-sheeted on that incident in which, as the hon. House will recall, the concerned passengers did not actually travel. They were apprehended before the plane took off. Nevertheless, they did go into the plane unauthorisedly. The prosecution evidence has come to a close and the date has been fixed for the defence. We hope that that enquiry will also be

completed very soon and necessary action will then be taken.

SEVENTY-FOURTH REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE (1972-73)

SHRI M. ANANDAM (Andhra Pradesh) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Seventy-fourth Report of the Public Accounts Committee (1972-73) on Chapter VI of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India for the year 1970-71—Union Government (Civil)—Revenue Receipts—Sales Tax Receipts of the Union Territory of Delhi.

REFERENCE TO FAILURE OF WATER SUPPLY IN THE FLATS OF NORTH AVENUE.

DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI (West Bengal) : Sir, this morning there was a sudden stoppage of drinking water in North Avenue without prior intimation causing great inconvenience to the residents of the area. Also, I understand that even the water taps...

SHRI KALYAN ROY (West Bengal) : Do you not know that the people of Delhi often go without drinking water?

DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI : You did not listen to me. I said without prior intimation. This was a sudden stop. I understand that even the water taps near the Willingdon hospital and near the Gole Post Office area have been damaged. So, I would request the Minister to make a proper enquiry and see whether there was any sabotage.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI OM MEHTA) : Sir, I am really sorry for the inconvenience caused to the residents of North Avenue due to the non-availability of drinking water, but it is due to no fault of ours. The NDMC workers are on strike and it was due to that they did not get water. I would like to say something on this.