

# RAJYA SABHA

[Friday, the 4th September, 1970/ the 13th  
Bhadra, 1892 (Saka)]

The House met at eleven of the clock  
MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

## REFERENCE TO THE SEA EROSION AND HEAVY RAINS IN KERALA

SHRI HAMID ALI SCHAMNAD  
(Kerala) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, before you  
take up the Calling Attention motion, I  
should like to raise a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : About what ?  
About the business of the House ?

SHRI HAMID ALI SCHAMNAD :  
There are three important points to which  
I wanted to draw the attention of the  
House in connection with the sufferings of  
the people of Kerala.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am not allowing  
it.

SHRI HAMID ALI SCHAMNAD :  
It is a point of order which I want to  
raise.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, please.

SHRI HAMID ALI SCHAMNAD :  
It is a point of order which I want to  
raise.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not a point of  
order.

SHRI HAMID ALI SCHAMNAD :  
Even the smallest point is being discussed  
in this House when thousands of people  
in Kerala are suffering due to the effect  
of sea erosion and unusually heavy  
rains.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not a point  
of order. Dr. Mahavir.

You should have come to my Chamber  
and taken my permission.

SHRI HAMID ALI SCHAMNAD :  
I want to submit.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, please, No.  
Dr. Mahavir.

SHRI HAMID ALI SCHAMNAD :  
I wanted to submit.

## CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

UNDUE DELAY OR CANCELLATION OF  
SCHEDULED FLIGHTS OF THE INDIAN AIR-  
LINES DUE TO WORK-TO-RULE TACTICS BY  
THE TECHNICAL STAFF

डा० भाई महावीर (दिल्ली) : श्रीमान्,  
मैं तकनीकी वर्ग कर्मचारी द्वारा "नियमानु-  
सार काम" की चाल अपनाए जाने के कारण  
इंडियन एयर लाइन्स की निर्धारित उड़ानों  
में अनावश्यक विलम्ब होने अथवा उड़ानों  
के रद्द किये जाने और इंडियन एयर लाइन्स  
और एयर इंडिया के कर्मचारियों द्वारा प्रस्ता-  
वित हड़ताल की ओर पर्यटन तथा नागर-  
विमानन मंत्री का ध्यान दिलाता हूँ।

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL  
AVIATION (DR. (SHRIMATI) SARO-  
JINI MAHISHI) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the  
employees of Indian Airlines and Air-India  
represented by the Indian Aircraft Techni-  
cians Association have resorted to "Go  
Slow" tactics since the morning of 17th  
August, 1970, resulting in disruption of  
work in both Airlines and serious delays  
and even cancellation of services in Indian  
Airlines. These actions have been resorted  
to in connection with IATA's demand for  
readjustments of the pay scales of techni-  
cal categories in both Airlines following  
a recent settlement reached between Air-  
India and the Air Corporations Employees  
Union revising the pay scales of non-  
technical categories in Air-India. The  
issue has been further complicated by  
inter-Union rivalry between IATA &  
ACEU. The Indian Aircraft Technicians  
Association feels that Air-India's recent  
action revising the pay scales of non-  
technical categories and earlier settlements  
sioned by Indian Airlines in 1967 consti-  
tute a deviation from the wage differentials  
between technical and non-technical cate-  
gories which were envisaged by the award  
of the National Industrial Tribunal pre-  
sided over by Shri G. D. Khosla in 1966.

[Dr. (Shrimati) Sarojini Mahishi]

The dispute raised by the Indian Aircraft Technicians Association was immediately referred to conciliation which unfortunately ended in failure on the 29th August. Government is now considering the further steps that should be taken to resolve the dispute. The IATA has also submitted a Charter of Demands to both the Corporations which have been under negotiation and have been referred to conciliation.

On Monday 31st August, the Air Corporations Employees Union also served strike notices on both Indian Airlines and Air-India on the ground that no settlement had been reached on its Charter of Demands. The Managements of both Corporations have been negotiating with ACEU in regard to these demands, but a settlement has not yet been possible. This has also been referred to conciliation.

The present actions of the Indian Aircraft Technicians Association have seriously affected the functioning of both Corporations, particularly Indian Airlines, and I must inform the House that unless normal working is resumed by the aircraft technicians immediately, Indian Airlines may have no option but to cancel many of their services. This will cause serious inconvenience to the travelling public and adversely affect the country's economy. I am sure the House will share my concern at the employees represented by IATA continuing on a course of action that is so detrimental to the country's interests. I hope that better sense will still prevail, and I would once again appeal to them immediately to resume normal functioning.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): Better sense should prevail where?

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR (Delhi): Sir, the root cause of the trouble seems to be, according to the statement of the Minister, that the Government tackles the problem of wage revision in a piecemeal fashion. The Khosla award that was given is presumably not being objected to. The Unions, so far as we are aware, accepted the award of Justice Khosla. But after that the management revised the pay-scales of the non-technical staff through some negotiations with the ACEU. The trouble seems to be, if we understand it aright, that

the technical staff are now saying that if you have given more than what the Khosla award contained to the non-technical staff, the differential between the technical and the non-technical staff has been reduced and, therefore, they feel aggrieved as their case seems to have gone by default. So, I would like to know if it is a fact that the terms agreed to, so far as the non-technical staff are concerned, are better than what the Khosla award gave and, if so, at the time of agreeing to those better terms was it not foreseen or expected that the people whose differentials would be reduced, would feel let down because they did not put up certain demands or they did not offer some strike notice? Why was their interest overlooked and a situation created where one group has a feeling of resentment against better terms given to the other group? I would like to know specifically why this situation was allowed to be created.

Secondly, I would like to know whether the present threat of strike is by the IATA only or by both IATA and ACEU, because from the statement, there appears to be some confusion; at least I have been confused on this point. Then I would like to know how many flights of various planes have been cancelled till date and how many flights are likely to be cancelled in the near future if the situation remains as unsatisfactory as it presently is. We have reports in the papers that the management of the Indian Airlines and Air India have cancelled all leaves. After cancelling all leaves, will it be possible to maintain some skeleton services, or will it be complete paralysis of the air service, both domestic and foreign, operated by the Indian Airlines and Air India. I would like to be enlightened on these three or four specific points.

DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI: Sir, it is true that the Khosla award was given in 1966 and the same was implemented in 1967.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN (Aardhra Pradesh): Not fully.

DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI: But on the 1st of February, 1967, there was an improvement on the award. The Indian Airlines entered into an agree-

ment with the ACEU for an improvement on the Khosla award and for parity between the technicians and the non-technicians. Therefore, according to that agreement, the difference between the pay-scales of the technical staff and the non-technical staff ceased to exist. It was in keeping with the agreement entered into by the ACEU and the IATA with the Indian Airlines; that was considered to be an improvement on the award given by the Khosla Committee. Sir, in 1967 when this was agreed to, the ACEU of Air India kept quiet. But on July 15, 1970, the ACEU of Air India also got parity scales along with their counterparts in the Indian Airlines. Therefore, parity was established between the ACEU of Air India and the ACEU of the Indian Airlines. Why this mistake was committed by the Indian Airlines in the year 1967, Dr. Mahavir has asked. It is rather difficult to say. But in the interest of the non-technical staff the Indian Airlines must have revised this. That is number one. Number two, he asked whether the ACEU also has submitted a charter of demands. Yes, the ACEU has also submitted a charter of demands and the same was also being negotiated. Now they have given a strike notice and the strike is going to start from the 16th of this month in case the negotiations are not successful. The IATA did not give any strike notice. They gave a charter of demands in August 1969 and the same was taken into consideration by the management in September, 1969. There are a number of other demands besides the revision of pay scales. Both are, so to say, on strike, though the IATA does not say that they are on strike. They say that they have withdrawn their cooperation and according to the technical terminology, according to them, it is not tantamount to strike. But according to the management and the Ministry of Law, it is tantamount to a sort of strike...

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:** What is this 'sort of strike'? Either it is a strike or it is not a strike.

**DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI:** The hon. Member asked me also about the cancellation of flights. If he wants this clarification, to the best of my ability I am willing to give it. It is very

difficult to say how many cancellations are there. From 17th August onwards, these IATA people have resorted to go-slow tactics and as a result of this the aircraft overhauling, repairing, etc. are done very slowly and without the safety measures and the airworthiness being certified. Under such conditions, it is very difficult to take out the aircraft and put them into operation. Under the circumstances, a number of flights have been cancelled. But no line is completely cut off. There are services on each and every route, but the number of additional services are cut off. If the situation continues like this, there may be further reduction. I hope good sense will prevail upon them and they will come back...

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:** She says 'good sense will prevail upon them'. That is a matter of opinion. I say that good sense should prevail upon the Government.

**DR. BHAI MAHAVIR:** One of the points has been missed. When you have cancelled all the leave, how far will that help the management for maintaining the services in some skeleton levels? Secondly, I would like to be enlightened on the exact meaning in layman's terminology or the difference between work-to-rule and go-slow tactics.

**DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI:** The hon. Member never meant these things to be included in his original question. These are supplementary to the supplementary. However, I shall answer it to the best of my ability. The information given to the paper is not correct. No emergency has been declared officially and no leave has been cut off. Orally these things have been told at the Calcutta base and not at any other base. The question of cancellation of leave, therefore, does not arise at this stage.

Now I shall try to explain to the best of my ability the difference between go-slow tactics and work-to-rule. Under go-slow, they are not doing over-time work. They are very slow in their work and especially in repairing and overhauling the aircraft. Work-to-rule is like this: Earlier they used to do over-time work and they used to skip over their lunch and dinner intervals. Now they do not do that.

[Dr. (Shrimati) Sarojini Mahishi]

Whatever may be the position of the aircraft, they go away. This is what they have started. There is a shade of difference between the two. But the net result is the same.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH (West Bengal): They used to give you more than what is required.

DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI: The nature of service includes all these things.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA (Maharashtra): During the past few weeks, the condition of flights and timings has deteriorated like anything and as per my information not even 10 per cent of the flights take off in time or reach in time. The main reason is the worst conditions of service of the employees. The pilots and technicians and the labour are prepared to cooperate with the management. But unfortunately, the management is functioning not as a public sector management. It is under the bureaucratic rule. Even the minimum justice is being denied to their employees. I am told that these big people get no time to look after the Indian Airlines.

(Interruptions)

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI (Maharashtra): Sir ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, please. Please do not interrupt...

(Interruptions)

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Sir ... (Interruptions) ... whether in the office or in the Court. I did not ask anything else.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, please sit down. Yes, Mr. Dharia.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA: I am least concerned with that. Ultimately, it is for the hon. Minister and it is for the Government of India to take care...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA: It is for the Government of India to take care of this Indian Airlines and, Sir I must say today that they have been failing in discharging

their duties and these public sector air services are slowly deteriorating. Under these circumstances, instead of her saying that good sense will prevail, will good sense prevail on the officers and the management of the Indian Airlines and will the hon. Minister immediately have consultations with the various Unions and their leaders and also the management and see that all these things are immediately settled and instead of taking some undue advantage of technicalities of good sense, using her good offices, will the Minister try to settle things?

DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI: As per the request of the hon. Member, the Deputy Minister is already holding some negotiations and she hopes that the negotiations will be successful also. As the hon. Member said, Sir, ...

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: What about good sense?

DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI: I am coming to that.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: We have to know whether good sense has prevailed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Good sense is coming ...

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: She says, negotiations are going on and she hopes they will be successful. We have to know whether good sense will prevail ...

(Interruptions)

DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI: Sir, as the hon. Member said about the existence of cordial relations among the employer and the employees, that indicates that there is good sense on the part of the management and good sense on the part of the workers also, employees also. Therefore, it does mean that something is wrong on both sides.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: Very good.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Very good.

DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI: I am not saying, Sir, that the management has been very very efficient in looking into all these things.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, it sounds like a transitional arrangement.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Do not interrupt.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, ...

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will not call some Members if you interrupt.

DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI: I do not say, Sir, that the management is perfectly right in everything that it does. But, there are certain other things which are to be looked into more diligently and efficiently by the management also and I hope, Sir, now the management will also try to bring back the good relations and the employees also will extend their co-operation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Bhadram. Not here. Then, Mr. Subramania Menon.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Some sense has prevailed.

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON (Kerala): Sir, the employees' work-to-rule has become a serious matter in the air corporation. The first point that I have to make is that it is an accepted principle of wage policy in all the advanced countries that highly skilled technical personnel will get higher wages than unskilled or administrative labour.

AN HON. MEMBER: It is anti-socialism.

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON: Socialism or not, the main fact is that skilled labour should get a higher wage than the unskilled or administrative labour. But, in these air corporations, the Khosla Committee, under whom the National Industrial Tribunal had been set up, had given an award and in that award, he has established certain parity between the technical and the non-technical staff. Now, the air corporations unilaterally change it and give extra advantages to the administrative staff. I do not know on what logic they have done it which has given rise to this dispute mainly. Now, Sir, ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please put the question. You are narrating things.

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON: Sir, I am coming to the question. But the point has to be said. What I want to know is whether the Indian Airlines Technicians' Association had brought to the notice of the management of this corporation the injustices done to them by this unilateral modification of the Khosla award.

Secondly, after they had given notice on the 18th August, 1970 of their intention to go on work-to-rule, I would like to know whether the Government has been flying a large number of aircraft on what is called a concession. This point is very important because the safety of the passengers is involved...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are taking too long. I will call the next Member.

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON: I am making an important point, Sir.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA (Orissa): Sir, he is sympathetically putting in a go-slow method.

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON: I would like to know whether these aircraft have been going on flights of concession which means that even though these aircraft are due for certain types of maintenance and repairs, those have not been done, and the Director-General of Civil Aviation has given special permission, that is, the concession to run these aircraft without maintenance and without proper care, which has resulted in this tragedy in the case of the Fokker Friendship aircraft...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no, Mr. Subramania Menon, I am calling the next person. You are taking away other Members' time.

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON: May I also know how many such concessional flights have taken place so far since August, 1970, since this work-to-rule has started?

**DR. (SHRIMATI) SARAJINI MAHISHI :** The honourable Member has referred to the difference between the pay-scales of the technical staff and the non-technical staff. The Khosla Award also maintained that there should be a difference between the pay-scales of the technical staff and non-technical staff. The honourable Member has said that this was modified unilaterally or that this was amended. It is very wrong to say that. It was done with the consent of these organisations, of these unions. The honourable Member should understand he never mentioned about parity between the technical and the non-technical staff. He mentioned—Mr. Khosla—about the parity between the ACEU of the Air India and the ACEU of the Indian Airlines. The IATA of the Air India and the IATA of the Indian Airlines are more or less one and the same. They both have these corporations. Therefore, it was not done unilaterally, but with an understanding with the other organisations, the other unions, which were in existence then. Secondly, he said that concessional aircraft are being put into operation. I do not understand what he means by "concession". He presumed that there is a concession in the operation of the aircraft. It is very wrong to presume like that because there is a huge amount of risk involved in these things. The very fact that a number of aircraft are being grounded speaks volumes for the fact that the air corporation is not going to take the risk of flying or operating these aircraft. Therefore, besides the Indian Air Corporation's technicians, there are maintenance engineers and others also who are in the ACEU and who are not going on strike or adopting this go-slow tactics. Therefore, it is these engineers, maintenance engineers, ground engineers, and others who are looking into the overall repairs and maintenance of these aircraft. And the airworthiness certificate is being issued by the Director-General of the Civil Aviation without which no aircraft can take off.

**SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON :** Can the Minister say that not a single concessional flight has taken place so far?

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** No more please.

**SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SANYAL (West Bengal) :** Mr. Chairman, is there any provision in the Rules of Procedure

which enables the Chair to be impatient with some Members and over-indulgent with others?

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** No, no, please sit down.

**SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SANYAL :** We feel strongly about this.

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** No, please sit down.

**SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SANYAL :** I am sitting down but I am getting up again. I register my protest to you. We feel very strongly about it.

**SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON :** Can the Minister categorically deny what I said that concessional flights have been going on?

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** I am calling the next Member, Mr. Menon. You have already put a very long question. Please sit down. Now, Mr. Mani.

**SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SANYAL :** Please take it as a warning that future troubles are coming.

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** I do not want hon. Members to give me warnings.

**SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SANYAL :** Everybody has to be honourable and even the Chair has to be honourable.

**SHRI NIREN GHOSH :** She got up to reply.

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** I have called Mr. Mani. If Members put too long questions and do not allow anybody else, I cannot help. I have called Mr. Mani.

**SHRI A. D. MANI (Madhya Pradesh) :** May I put a somewhat unpopular question? I am a passenger of the Airlines and the passenger is as important as the technical staff. The work-in-rule tactics of the employees, by the technical staff, for whatever reason it may be, has meant delayed flights of planes and has brought discredit to the Airlines. We also depend on the tourist traffic. What difficulty is there in the way of the Government declaring it as an essential service? If they are asked to work for more than the stipulated hours, please pay them overtime.

This is giving a bad name to us. If these people are so important so also are the doctors in the hospitals. They are asked to work overtime, they are also asked to come beyond the stipulated time. Why cannot these technical staff be declared as staff coming under the Essential Services Act? I do not mind your paying overtime but the work-to-rule must stop. This is an unpopular question, no doubt.

**DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI :** I am extremely sorry for the inconvenience caused on account of the delay and cancellation of flights but then paying more attention to the safety measures certain aircraft flights have been cancelled.

**SHRI A. D. MANI :** Why do you not declare them as Essential Services?

**DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI :** This is part of the Essential Services already. Therefore there is no necessity again to declare.

**SHRI A. D. MANI :** But you are not taking action.

**DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI :** It is an already Essential Services.

**DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN (Kerala) :** (Kerala) : On a point of order. To an earlier question of Mr. Menon the Minister denied...

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** What is the point of order?

**DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN :** The Minister did not give the correct information about the concessional flights. It is a question of privilege. VT-DOM with co-pilot Sanjeev Gandhi and VT DJC were concessional flights. There is concrete evidence. The Minister gave a wrong information. Concrete evidence can be given.

**SHRI R. T. PARTHASARAHY (Tamil Nadu) :** From the answer given by the Minister, I am led to believe that the Government does not think that there has been a discrimination between the technical staff of the IAC and the technical staff of the Air-India nor between the technical and non-technical categories. If that is so, the reasonable demands or otherwise of the IATA practically is

reduced to a nullity. May I know, if that is the view of the Government what is the purpose in having negotiations with the representatives of the Union of IATA?

Secondly, if the Government is convinced that their stand is correct and the management has acted correctly and they find that the unions have gone in the wrong way by putting public convenience into the gutters, why is the Government hesitant particularly after the strike notice and is not referring this matter to arbitration and what is the view of the Government on that?

**DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI :** As I told earlier, the Khosla Committee said that the difference between the pay scales of the technical staff and the non-technical staff should be maintained but it was in a bilateral agreement with the union that the Air-India and the IAC came to the conclusion that there should be parity between the IATA of Air-India and the IATA of the IAC and also between the ACEU of the Indian Airlines and Air-India. That is the main thing but the Job Evaluation Committee earlier than the Khosla Committee and also the Khosla Committee were of the opinion that the technical staff should be paid a bit higher. That was there already but this was done in agreement with the Union. Secondly he asked if the management thinks that they are on the right, where is the necessity for negotiations. I already told that there may be something wrong. I told earlier that both the parties have got to negotiate and some *via media* has to be found out. Now he has asked why it is not being referred to arbitration. It was already referred to conciliation, which failed on the 29th of August, and the next step will be arbitration or adjudication.

**SHRI GODEY MURAHARI (Uttar Pradesh) :** I would like to know from the Government whether it is not a fact that the Director-General of Civil Aviation has not been insisting on 100% o.k. clearance from the technicians as far as the aircraft is concerned and there has been some relaxation in the rule now because, probably, the Director-General of Civil Aviation feels that, in view of the go-

[Shri GODEY MURAHARI]

slow tactics, or the work-to-rule tactics adopted by the workers, it is not possible to get 100% o.k. clearance, and if that is a fact, I would like to know whether it is not true that because of this there is a possibility of certain aircraft getting involved in accidents as the one which was involved—I refer to the Fokker Friendship plane—a few days ago, and all the 39 people on board that plane died. I would like to know whether it was one of those reasons, and also, if that is a fact, I would like to know what the Government intends to do to see that the passengers are not put to risk in view of this, and also whether the Government does not take a serious view of the whole situation and does not feel that this whole negotiation should be completed speedily. It is all right to say, "We are negotiating, we are negotiating", but then the notice was given some time in August, and this is September, and, Sir, airlines is such a thing where the negotiations should be completed within a day or two. You cannot go on risking the lives of so many passengers by this kind of procrastination on the part of the Government. And I would also like to know whether the Government intends to merge the Indian Airlines with the Air India because, if there are no differences between the pay scales and there is no difference in their status, then I see no reason why these two corporations should not be merged into one.

DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI : Sir, the hon. Minister has asked a series of questions, and earlier also one of the hon. Members asked the question whether there is any concession in these things—I am sorry such a question is put. There is no type of that concession in this regard, in this regard of operations of the aircraft. The air-worthiness of every aircraft is certified by the Directorate-General of Civil Aviation and no concession is shown in this regard, and I again emphasise this fact that the Director-General and the Management do not want to take any risk in this regard. After getting full satisfaction that an aircraft is air-worthy, then only it is put into operation.

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON : Even aircraft with snags are allowed to fly.

DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI : If the hon. Member has more information than what I know or the technical staff know, only in that case I should be sorry, for this. The ground engineer, the flight engineer, the maintenance engineer, they are not on shore. They are still doing their duties. (Interruptions) Of course the air-worthiness of an aircraft is being certified after fully getting satisfied that it is fit to fly. Then only.

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : I can give a series of instances where aircraft have been allowed to fly without fully putting to test their air-worthiness.

DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI : I have said in a previous reply that no aircraft would have been grounded, if there was any concession in giving the air-worthiness certificate. The very fact that certain aircraft are being grounded shows that air-worthiness receives top priority. Then the hon. Member tried to link up the accident met with by that Fokker Friendship plane with this particular concession, with this so-called concession in air-worthiness. It is very wrong because in this very House I have said that it was due to other reasons, due to the squall and the lightning clouds and other things at an altitude of 7,000 feet or so. It may be due to other reasons, and only the Court of Enquiry will be able to establish the facts that were responsible for that accident. Then the hon. Member asked a question on merging the two Corporations. Now, Sir, that question of the merger of the two Corporations has been discussed often times on the floor of the House but I may for the information of this House say that there is a body, a Board of Directors each for both the Corporations. The members on these Boards are common. Except the two General Managers and the Chairmen, the members on the Board of Directors of the Indian Airlines and the members on the Board of Directors of Air India, they are common. Therefore, there is perfect co-ordination between the two, and it is expected that more and more co-operation and understanding will be there in the working of these two Corporations.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Loknath Misra.



SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : Sir...

SHRI D. THENGARI (Uttar Pradesh) : There are four names on the list...

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am calling the names of those who are not on the list.

(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Uttar Pradesh) : What about this side of the House?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Because the Congress Members' names are there, I have called one...

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : One Congress and one from each party. This is the parity...

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, no. The name was on the list. Mr. Lokanath Misra.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : Mr. Chandra Shekhar, you split into more parties and you will be given more chance.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : My friend, Mr. Chandra Shekhar, is quite right, but every time an Opposition Member asks a question, the Minister gets up.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right, you go on like this.

(Interruptions)

I want to call one from each party, even those who are not on the list

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I had requested you so many times that if you have taken some decision in consultation with some leaders, it should be made known to all the Members. If you have taken some decision inside your Chamber, how are we to know it? What is the procedure you are adopting, I do not know, but is it not the duty of the Chairman or the Secretary to tell us that these were the decisions arrived at?

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not a new decision. I am working according to an old decision.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : What is the old decision? You are wrong, Sir. You please show me a single bulletin where we have been informed of such a decision.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not a decision that I have got to show a bulletin, but the practice is there.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, even till today the old decision is to go according to the list, to call the names as they stand on the Order Paper. If you have taken another decision, I can appreciate it, because of some difficulties, but in that case it is your duty to inform all the Members of the House. Decisions taken in the Chamber are not binding on us. We shall not go according to that decision, till we are informed of it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, I may inform the House...

(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Our difficulty is that we have given a certain assurance to co-operate with your functioning today and you can do as you like.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, I may inform the House that I am not...

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : I am totally satisfied. I shall not speak. Do not call me.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am not working according to any new decision. The practice has been to call one from each party out of the names on the list

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : That is what I want to know. Mr. Chairman, Sir...

MR. CHAIRMAN : For the past one year I have been observing it.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : I am on a point of procedure. So far, I am not aware of this sort of decision taken by the Chair. If it is taken, of course, I am here to abide by the decision, but is it not the duty of the Secretariat, if the decision has been taken in consultation with the leaders of some of the parties, to let us know the decision to that effect, so that there will not be any complaint? I am

[Shri M. M. Dharia]

saying this for strengthening your hands. There should not be any misunderstanding on your part.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have understood your point. For the past one year that I have been here I have been working according to this practice and all the Members know it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : No, no

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : You do not have to explain it. Their party leaders have to explain it. If they have failed in their duty, it is none of your business.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Our party Members also did not know it. The meeting you held today was attended by the representatives of all the parties, including the Congress Party. Now, if the Congress Party leaders have not transmitted the decision to my friend, Mr. Dharia, I think the matter should be taken up with the leader of his party.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am a Member of this House and as a Member of this House I do enjoy some privileges. Irrespective of any decision taken by any committee whatsoever, it is my privilege and I insist on my right.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Go on.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : If the leader has agreed to it, we have nothing to say, call twenty from the Opposition and one from the ruling party. Let us not object. It is a right decision that has been taken.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I proceed according to the practice. I have called one from each party.

SHRI DALPAT SINGH (Rajasthan) : The Calling Attention Notice has been given by the Members, not in the name of parties. You should finish the list of Members and then you call the parties.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, no. You ask the leader of your party what the practice has been.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are not hearing me. As a Member of the House, it is my duty to protect my interests.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have protected your interest by calling you first.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY : (Mysore) : Sir, I want to say this.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down. I want to proceed.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY : Sir, it is a matter in which the privileges of Members are affected. That is why I would like to submit to you...

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, no. I do not want to listen.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY : I do not want to speak oftentimes but for the fact that I am one of the affected persons. Similarly some other Members are affected in this House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you please sit down now ? Let us proceed.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY : Please listen.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have listened to you.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY : You have not heard me. Kindly allow me to say only one sentence. I do not know what has happened in the Chamber...

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are taking time unnecessarily, Mr. Misra.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY : I am prepared to obey you only at the cost of losing my privilege. I sacrifice my privilege for the sake of the Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am grateful to you for this, Mr. Misra.

SHRI T. V. ANANDAN (Tamil Nadu) : You should have exhausted all the names in the list and then only you should go for others.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : May I know from the hon. Minister whether the efficiency of the Indian Airlines has very

much deteriorated so far as industrial relations are concerned as the new Chairman, Mr. Mohan Kumaramangalam, has taken over because he has no time absolutely to look after his job, to supervise the job for which he is meant ? The amenities given to him as the Chairman of the Indian Airlines *(Interruption)* May I know whether he is using all the amenities as the Chairman of the Indian Airlines to boost up his practice in the Supreme Court, and whether one of the favourites, Mr. Basu...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Practice and all that, that is out of order.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : The point is this.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You put a question.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : I am putting a question. He is Chairman...

MR. CHAIRMAN : That was ruled out.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : Why should you rule it out ? You cannot rule it out.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL (Gujarat) : We stand all sorts of nonsense from that side.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : My question stands, whether the lot of amenities he enjoys as Chairman of the Indian Airlines he uses them to boost up his practice in the Supreme Court. He uses his influence to boost his practice in the Supreme Court. He indulges in all sorts of politics. He is adviser to the Prime Minister and in that capacity he uses...

SOME HON. MEMBERS : No, no.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not relevant.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : I am putting my question. Others are objecting.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You put a relevant question.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : It is a very relevant question. He is receiving a rupee from the public exchequer. He is a public servant. Can he be allowed to

do all sorts of nonsense in the country ? Therefore, may I ask whether he is indulging in all sorts of politics even doing the job of adviser to the Prime Minister in all political actions, and whether he has a favourite called Mr. Basu who is the Personnel Director, who was recruited from one of the private sector industries and who does all sorts of things resulting in further deterioration of industrial relations in the Indian Airlines ? Therefore, what has happened is the result of what Mr. Kumaramangalam and Mr. Basu are doing. Is it not a fact ?

DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI : The answer is 'no', Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : May I proceed to the next item ? Dr. Rao.

*(Several hon. Members stood up) :*

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : My name is in the list.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Your name is number three out of the Congress Members, this side. I have called one each, that is, according to the practice. It may not be known to you, but I have been observing it everyday, and Members also know. I have called one from each side.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : I am sorry to observe you are crossing all limits. I am speaking with full sense of responsibility and keeping in view the decorum of this House. And I shall like to know from the Leader of the House and the leader of the Congress Party whether they have agreed to such a procedure that 20 Members from the Opposition and one Member from the ruling party will speak. And Mr. Chairman, my name is there. You know that I very seldom give my name to Calling Attention Notices and for four or five years I have not asked a question. But sometimes I think the Chair should use his discretion, and if your discretion is against me all the time, I know how to get time. Mr. Chairman, Sir, under the circumstances, I shall very humbly request you not force me to resort to such methods which are very common these days in this House and to which you are susceptible and you succumb to them also. Sir, I shall like to know from the leader of the Congress Party categorically whether there

[Shri Chandra Shekhar]

was any such assurance that 20 Members from the Opposition and one from the Congress Party will speak on the Calling Attention Notice.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : On a point of order.

SHRI BALACHANDRA MENON (Kerala) : I would like to point out that certain names which are not in the list can be called and you will not allow others who want to put some questions.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Sir, whenever in the list the names are more, you have got the procedure of calling one from each party from among the list. I have observed this rule and your decision up till now. Sir, today you have called Mr. Parthasarathy whose name does not stand in this list. This name of Shri Chandra Shekhar was rightly due to be called. I also met you in the Chamber...

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will call everybody.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Sir, you have got a procedure of calling from all parties. But you have deviated from the procedure. I only want to protest against that.

SHRI BALACHANDRA MENON : If you want to deviate...

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : The position is...

MR. CHAIRMAN : I request the Members, let us proceed with the business of the House.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : We are not co-operating with you today.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Whether I am right or wrong, I am trying to follow the method which we have been observing, to call one person from one party... (Interruptions) Please sit down. May we proceed with the business? If the whole House wants that I should go on with this Calling Attention Notice, I will go on.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, my submission is that the decision has not

been correctly said. Therefore, there is some misunderstanding. The normal rule is that those who give the Calling Attention Notice, they should be called. Now, in order to accommodate the other parties, you decided that if too many people from one party are in the list, one should be called, then by rotation...

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : Where was that decision?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Mr. Dharia and Mr. Chandra Shekhar know very well that personally I love to hear their voices. But the trouble is that those who give the names, they are to be called. But if they belong to one party, the decision was that in that case one should be called, then the next party, then the next party after that from the same list; all other parties by rotation.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : That I can understand.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : (Uttar Pradesh) : Sir, on a point of order Sir, you have been referring to certain decisions taken at a meeting in your Chamber.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, no.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : I found that the leader of my party, the Congress Party, was not present, and my inquiries reveal that the leader of my party has not been invited.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI OM MEHTA) : He was present here.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : As is well known, Mrs. Indira Gandhi is the leader of the party and not Mr. K. K. Shah. I may inform you that Mrs. Gandhi is still the leader of the Congress Party.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Dange was present.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : My party was not represented.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Mr. Shah is the Leader of the House.

**THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI S. N. MISHRA) :** Sir, it was your pleasure to announce in the House the agreement that had been reached amongst the political parties on this subject. Now if the honourable Members of the ruling party do think that the arrangement that has been decided upon is unjust and inequitable, we would like to co-operate with them in making it more just and equitable but let me make it quite clear that we have agreed to a certain arrangement and so far as the Opposition is concerned, it is strictly adhering to it.

**SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR (Madhya Pradesh) :** Sir, on a point of order.

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** I have called the Prime Minister.

**THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) :** Sir, I am merely saying that so far as I know, I also thought that the procedure was that we would go according to the printed list. If anything else has been discussed in your Chamber—my information is that the discussions are still continuing—no final decision has been taken and that is why it has not appeared in the list. This is what I am told. Whatever be the disagreement here now, I suggest that you take up the matter again in your Chamber and let all the leaders of the other parties discuss it.

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA :** I have a statement here...

(Interruptions)

**SHRI S. N. MISHRA :** I would say that the Prime Minister has not been correctly informed by the Leader of the House.

**SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR :** Sir, for God's sake please look into the Rules.

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** I have acted on what the practice was when I became the Chairman. This practice was repeated in the Leaders' meeting. No one objected to this practice. I may inform Madam Prime Minister that it is not something new or tentatively decided by the Leader or the

Deputy Leader. I myself have done it. I have been acting in accordance with the practice as I found it.

**SHRI M. M. DHARIA :** Absolutely wrong. I am a Member of this House for the last six years.

**SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR :** Sir, if for nothing else I shall request you in the name of the dignity of this House that what you say can be corroborated by the records of this House. If you see the records of this House on the Calling-Attention Motion it has never happened in this House. It is for the first time that it has happened.

**SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS :**  
No, no.

**SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR :** Please let me say. When the names of the persons... first round, second round...

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** And third round...

**SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR :** But if it was not a very big list; if there were only 8 or 10 names or 6 or 7 names. It has never happened. Sir, I say it with the fullest sense of responsibility. Mr. Chairman, Sir, since you have become the Chairman, fortunately or unfortunately, I have also been a Member of this House, and I can assure you that it has never happened. It can be corroborated. Mr. Chairman, Sir, when I am challenging the verdict given by the Chair, I know its consequences and I shall be ready to get it examined by any Committee and the findings of that Committee should be placed on the Table of the House—that when the list was marked with six, seven or eight Members, only one name has been taken from the Congress benches.

**SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHARAN (Kerala) :** Sir, I suggest two things only for your respectful consideration. So far as the present Calling Attention Motion is concerned, I respectfully suggest to you that you may be pleased to call the remaining names as well as some on this side.

As far as the second point is concerned, as the Madam Prime Minister was pleased

[Shri K. Chandra Sekharan]

to say, you please take up the matter in your Chamber and have a discussion with the leaders of the parties.

SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have to bring to your kind notice one thing. I do not know—and I will not dilate upon that—what has been decided in your Chamber and what has been the practice. But I want to draw your attention to the Rules. The relevant Rule, Rule 180, has to be considered.

It says :—

“(1) A member may, with the previous permission of the Chairman, call the attention of a Minister to any matter of urgent public importance and the Minister may make a brief statement or ask for time to make a statement at a later hour or date.

So, it is up to the honourable Chair to either refuse or give the permission. But once the permission is given, it is the right of the hon'ble Member to stand up and put the question. It is also for the Chair to admit as many other Members as he likes after the question has been put. He can change the order of names also. But the Member whose name appears on the list, who has given notice, and who has been allowed, his name cannot be changed even by a decision in the Chamber with the party leaders or whatever it is...

(Shri C. D. Pande got up in his seat)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Your Leader has already spoken.

SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR : ... let me complete. If at all any new procedure has to be evolved, then the Rule has to be changed under Rule 216. I agree that there is discretion with the Chair, but the discretion is to allow more and not to refuse names which are already on the list. I had been suffering from this disability all the five days in the first week of this session. My name appeared on the list but I was not allowed to put a question.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right. Please sit down.

SHRI GODEY MURAHARI : I have been in some of the meetings of the Busi-

ness Advisory Committee. But, Sir, as far as I remember it was this very question which was raised on the floor of the House once and it was discussed just as we are discussing it today. I remember that you announced this procedure on the floor of the House. I do not see why we should have such a big discussion. If some people feel aggrieved that the procedure is not given full justice, they can change the procedure. I have no objection to that. Therefore, it is altogether unnecessary to go into all these things.

(Shri Babubhai M. Chinai got up in his seat)

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, please. I have heard your leader.

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY (Mysore) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, with regard to the Calling Attention motion, you are following the practice that was there. And this matter was discussed on the floor of the House. And it was 12 Noon agreed that what you are doing is perfectly in order. If some Members take objection to it saying that it is not proper and they feel aggrieved, this may be referred to the Business Advisory Committee or to a meeting of leaders of groups. I suggest that no more discussion on this should take place and we should proceed with the Constitution Amendment Bill.

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI (Maharashtra) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, my submission is this. You have said that you have consulted leaders and Whips of parties in your chamber. How is it that the leader of the Congress Party and the Whip are not on their legs to clarify whether they were consulted or not.

SHRI OM MEHTA : No, no.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI : If they had got up in the beginning this noise would not have been there.

SHRI C. D. PANDE (Uttar Pradesh) : They are afraid of Mr. Chandra Shekhar.

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI : They are afraid of Mr. Chandra Shekhar and Mr. Dharía.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI : Sir, may I with your permission say that I thoroughly support what my hon. friend has said, that we should now get on with the important business. Apart from the question of the names here, there is the human aspect of any problem. Now some close friends of one of our own Members, perhaps his relatives, are involved. He is getting telegrams and messages from his area that he should raise the subject. Now his name is on the list. He is not called. So you can understand his own feelings and the feelings of his area. (Interruptions) Anyway, we say, let us move on now. (Interruptions)

श्री जगदम्बा प्रसाद यादव (बिहार) : आज चन्द्रशेखर जी का नाम है, इसलिए यह हो रहा है। हमारी पार्टी के भी तीन सदस्यों के नाम हैं।

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI : We may go on to the next item.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : He can be called now.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI : Not now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. N. MISHRA : This is always done. The Chair always shows this much of consideration to all of us. We have no grievance with regard to that.

श्री निरंजन वर्मा (मध्य प्रदेश) : आज जो प्रश्न उठा है, उस पर आपने क्या निर्णय लिया ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will consider that. Now, Dr. Rao.

(Interruptions)

STATEMENT BY MINISTER CORRECTING EARLIER STATEMENT MADE IN THE HOUSE ON AUGUST

10, 1970

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES (PROF.

V.K.R.V. RAO) : Sir, may I lay it on the Table ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes.

PROF. V.K.R.V. RAO : Sir, I have pleasure in laying on the Table a statement correcting my earlier statement made in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th August, 1970, in response to the calling Attention notice regarding the mass action by the university and college teachers in West Bengal to press their demands, and the situation arising therefrom [Placed in Library. See No. 4187/70].

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal) : Sir, this matter regarding West Bengal teachers should be discussed after we pass the Bill. It is very important. West Bengal is under the Centre now. Something should be done to redress the grievances of the teachers.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down, Mr. Gupta.

श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी (गजस्थान) : अगर यह केवल संशोधन के लिए मंत्री का बक्तव्य है, तो फिर स्टेटमेंट टेबल आफ दि हाउस पर रखने की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं होनी चाहिए। संशोधन अगर छोटा है तो मंत्री उसको पढ़ दें और अगर वह टेबल पर रखा गया है, तो उसकी कार्रवाई हमें उपस्थित होने के बाद प्रश्न पूछने की अनुमति देनी चाहिए। अब दोनों में से जो भी पद्धति अगर यहां स्वीकार करें। अगर अभी स्टेटमेंट लीया जाए तो हम अभी सवाल पूछेंगे, अगर अभी नहीं पढ़ रहे हैं, तो हमको बाद में सत्य देना पड़ेगा, उस सम्बन्ध में सवाल पूछने के लिए, नहीं तो स्पष्टीकरण की आइ में कई ऐसी चीजें होती हैं, जिनको पहले के और-जितना आन्सर में मंत्री हाउस में एक्स्टेंड करना चाहते हैं। इसका लाभ उठाने का उनको मौका नहीं मिलना चाहिए।

श्री सभापति : भंडारी साहब, मैं नहीं देखूंगा, फिर आपको बताऊंगा।