

those allegations or does he confirm them, the allegations of Pakistan that Indian crew have conducted themselves in a way which is objectionable?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: It is for the Customs Department. As far as I am concerned, I deny that any Indian crew indulges in any such malpractice. I strongly deny that.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: May I know whether any similar allegations have been made against our employees operating on the West Bengal—East Pakistan border?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: I am not aware of that just now.

SHRI P. C. MITRA: May I know what security arrangements the Government of India have made for the Indian Railway staff when they have to go within Pakistan territory?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Sir, the moment they enter Pakistan territory, we have an undertaking from the Pakistan Government that our crew will be safe and we rely on that. Similarly, we extend similar protection to their crew.

RECRUITMENT OF FOREIGN PILOTS FOR FLYING AIR INDIA AIRCRAFT

*300. **SHRI KRISHAN DUTT:** Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact, as reported in the Indian Express dated 31st March, 1964, that the Indian Pilots' Guild has informed the Air India management that the pilots would resort to an "indefinite strike" if the management "persists in its policy" of recruiting foreign pilots to fly its aircraft; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken or is proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT (SHRI

AHMED MOHTUDDIN: (a) and (b) No strike notice as such has been received from the pilots of Air-India. The Corporation have reported that the Indian Pilots Guild had, in a communication addressed to the Management, stated that if foreign pilots were employed disregarding the protest of the Guild, they would declare an indefinite strike. The Management informed the Guild that they had no intention of employing foreign nationals as pilots, and the proposal under consideration was to employ on temporary basis two Commanders who had previously served with Air India for 16 years. The Guild was, however, assured that the matter would be fully discussed with them before a decision was taken. The issue has since been discussed with the Guild to the satisfaction of the Guild.

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT: May I know whether there are any foreign nationals now employed as pilots in these aircraft?

SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN: In Air-India there is only one foreign national, a Ceylonese, who has been an employee of Air-India for a very long period.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: The hon. Minister said that two commanders want to join Air-India, who were previously employees of Air India for sixteen years. Is it not a fact that one of these commanders, who was an Indian national, gave up Indian nationality and resigned from Air-India to join the British Overseas Airways Corporation? Now he again wants to join Air-India. Is it proper for such a person, who gave up Indian nationality and left this country, to be taken up in service here again?

SHRI AHMED MOHTUDDIN: I am not aware that any of these two pilots had joined the British Overseas Airways Corporation. My information is that they had resigned in 1963 and were doing some business. As far as

the question of these pilots is concerned, I am informed that they had taken British Passports. What would be the effect of acquiring a British Passport, whether they lose Indian nationality or not are all legal questions.

(Shri A. M. Tariq stood up.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, Mr. Tariq, you have had your say.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: The Minister while replying said that he was not aware of the implications of the acquisition of British Passports, whether the persons concerned lose the nationality of the country to which they belong or not. Is it the contention of the Government that an Indian who takes up a British Passport does not change his nationality also?

SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN: I am afraid the Question Hour is not meant for declaration of policies.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: This is not your business. It is the Chair's business.

SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN: I am talking about the rules of the House.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: Even that is not for you. It is for the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Tariq, it is not also any of your business to intervene.

SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN: Moreover, I know very many reputable scientists who have foreign passports but we want them to come back. For example, in the scientific pool there are a number of scientists who have foreign passports and we are anxious that they should come back and do the work in India.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether there are any set rules in Air-India for the re-employment of those employees of theirs who had left service earlier by their own choice or were asked by the Air-India to leave their service?

SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN: I do not think, Sir. I am not aware of any hard and fast rule like that but still, the usual practice is that if they go to other airlines, great precaution is taken in re-employing them.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: How is it that the hon. Minister is not sure of the fact that in order to get a British passport, one does not necessarily have to be a British subject? In the case of people belonging to the Commonwealth, it is much easier to get this kind of passport. It should be known to the Government. You are a part of the Commonwealth. Don't you know that?

SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN: That is a legal point.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Legal point is a fact. I am not asking about policy. He also said that he would not like to elaborate the policy but I am asking this: How is it that even after the matter had been brought to their notice, he does not know exactly what the requirements are for a person to get the passport of a foreign country, especially that of England?

SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN: I know, for example, that the High Court of a State has pronounced that acquisition of a foreign passport does not mean loss of nationality.

MOHINI SUGAR MILLS LTD.

*301. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any information that the Mohini Sugar Mills Limited, Warsallyganj, Gaya, closed down on the 10th of March, 1964 due to non-availability of cane and financial mismanagement;

(b) if so, what are the arrears of Government dues, workers' wages and sugar-cane growers against this factory; and