

SARDAH SWARAN SINGH: A pilot plant for making bricklets in one thing and the utilisation of those bricklets for smelting iron ore is an entirely different thing and we cannot establish a furnace spending Rs. 50 lakhs or so, merely for the purpose of undertaking a pilot test.

**FARE CHARGES FROM PERSONS WHO
ACCOMPANIED THE P. M. DURING HIS
ELECTION TOUR TO ORISSA**

*101. SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question No. 176 and its supplementaries in the Rajya 'Sabha on the 18th August, 1961 and state:

(a) whether the fares of persons, who accompanied the Prime Minister when he visited Orissa during the mid-term elections last year, have been recovered and if so from how many persons they have been recovered and what is the amount recovered; and

(b) how many hours the Indian Air Force planes have to fly every month and how many hours of such flights were used for the Prime Minister's visit?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON): (a) Yes, Sir, Rs. 1,547.50 nP. for nine passengers including the Prime Minister. In addition, a sum of Rs. 400-00 by way of night halt charges, has also been recovered.

(b) The authorised flying task of each aircraft is 45 hours per month. The Prime Minister's visit involved flying of 7 hours and 15 minutes.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: It was stated in answer to a supplementary question on August 18th that the Indian Air Force planes have to undertake a certain number of flight hours every month. But the Prime Minister and the Defence Minister utilise these flights for election

purposes and so will the Government make these flight available to others also?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No implication.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: No, Sir. I make no implications. I only want to know whether the same will be allowed to other parties also? No implication. I am only asking for information, (*Interruptions.*) Since the Prime Minister uses them and since the Defence Minister uses them, will the IAF planes be made available to other party people also? That is the question. There is no implication at all.

(*Interruptions.*)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You may ask a question—whether they were used for election purposes.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: It is a simple question—whether others will be allowed.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: In answer to the question put in August last the answer has been given. My previous question was whether the Prime Minister visited Orissa during the mid-term elections and who bore the expenses. In answer we were told that he went by an IAF plane. Here I want further elucidation with reference to that answer. I have in this question made reference to my original question of August last. If the Prime Minister can utilise the IAF plane, since the Defence Minister can utilise it, will other party people also be allowed to use them? I want an answer.

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: There are certain rules laid down regarding the entitlement to the use of these planes; and when they are used for non-official purposes—and it happens that when the Prime Minister is going on an official purpose, in

between comes some non-official business—he scrupulously sees that the charge is made at the non-official rates.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: We were told that the Prime Minister should not travel by chartered planes for security reasons.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: And the answer to the question in August was different from what is given today. I may be slow in understanding. I do not have the fine brain of the Defence Minister. But I want to get this clear. Last August the answer given was that the Prime Minister had to go by an IAF plane in connection with the mid-term elections in Orissa.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, for security reasons.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: I find the Defence Minister also goes by IAF planes. What about other parties?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: What will happen to us?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The police will take care of you.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: What about us, particularly when Indian Airlines planes disappear particularly when Shri Rajagopalachari travels? Then the Indian Airlines planes suddenly disappear even when payment is made. So I am asking this question, Sir.

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: These planes are not hired by parties.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: From the replies given last time in August and also from others, it seems that somehow or other certain scheduled flights by the IAF synchronise with the election meetings of the gentleman called Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, and therefore, may I know whether in

622 RS—2.

that case which is settled first, the election meeting or the scheduled flight? And if these scheduled flights are available to the leader of the Congress Party, may I ask whether the Government consider the—advisability of announcing their programme of scheduled flights so that not only Shri Rajagopalachari, but others also may take advantage of such scheduled flights and either accompany the Prime Minister or not accompany him?

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: Mr. Bhupesh Gupta on the last occasion said:

"I agree and the security should be there. Only I am after the A. I. C. C., in public interest. I am fully for the Prime Minister's security. May I know whether in that case the I. A. F. would be charging the A. I. C. C. at the rates of a chartered plane because the purpose for which the plane had been used was entirely a party purpose and election purpose at that time, security and other things remaining equal?"

Whether it was used for that purpose is the point.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Ten persons travel and apart from the Prime Minister, do I take it that the security of the other nine is of the same degree as that of the Prime Minister so that they have got to make use of that flight?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order.

Smq BHUPESH GUPTA: Allow me, Sir, it is most unfair.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You cannot go on arguing.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I am not arguing, Sir.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Would the Government consider a proposition that in all such trips, besides the Prime

Minister and his official party, no other person would be allowed to travel by the I. A. F. plane?

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: Under the rules, the Prime Minister has got the freedom to take anybody he wants.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Then what is the guarantee about the cost?

(No reply)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I would like to know whether the rules mentioned by the hon. Minister allow the Government members to take the I. A. F. plane for party purposes also?

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: No, Sir, I have not said that. If it is taken for a non-official purpose, it has got to be paid for and it is paid for.

PANDIT HRIDAY NATH KUNZRU: If the Prime Minister takes with him people who are not government servants, how is this allowed? Is it fair that while the Prime Minister should be able to take people who engage in political work, no other non-officials who want to carry on political work should be able to use the plane?

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: Whatever be the party to which they may belong, if they are not on official work, they are paid for.

PANDIT HRIDAY NATH KUNZRU: The question is not that. The question is . . .

(Interruption)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order, Mr. Samuel.

PANDIT HRIDAY NATH KUNZRU: Whether the Prime Minister paid for it or not is irrelevant. The question

is how the Prime Minister can be allowed to take people unconnected with Government for political purposes in the plane by which he flies.

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: When he goes on non-official duty, the Prime Minister does not cease to be Prime Minister.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Were any persons taken for political purposes?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Of course, I could give you the names. The Office Secretary of the A. I. C. C. for instance . . .

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: No, Sir.

PANDIT HRIDAY NATH KUNZRU: May I point out that in England when the Prime Minister goes out electioneering, he does not cease to be Prime Minister but the expenses are paid by his party and not by the Government,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Even here the expenses are paid by the party.

PANDIT HRIDAY NATH KUNZRU: The Prime Minister does not use any official car or official plane and he certainly does not take non-officials for election with him when he goes out on official purpose.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He said that no persons were taken for political purposes.

PANDIT HRIDAY NATH KUNZRU: He is bound to say that but when people who are not officials go with him, what is the inference? Do I understand, Sir, . . .

(Interruption)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order. Next question.

SHRI (GANGA SHARAN SINHA: It is an important matter and I should like this matter to be discussed.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Then you should allow discussions. You allow this thing to be discussed. It is most unfair of the Prime Minister to use State machinery in this manner.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order. You may table motion, if you like.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Yes, Sir.

(Interruption)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order. Next question.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: It is a serious thing . . .

SHRI GANGA SHARAN SINHA: Elections are coming and this matter should be discussed.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: It is the demand of all opposition parties that this matter should be discussed.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: We demand. You agree, Sir. This question of the use of I. A. F. planes for party purposes by the Prime Minister or any member of the Government for election purposes should be discussed.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You may table a motion for a half an hour discussion, if you want.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Therefore, Sir, I give notice for a half an hour discussion.

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: These planes are not used by any political party.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have called the next question.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Face a discussion. You are a great fighter.

*102. [The questioner (Dr. A. Subba Rao) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 463-64 infra.]

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION TO UNESCO

•103. SHRI P. N. RAJABHOJ: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India has decided to contribute some additional amount to the UNESCO; and

(b) if so, what is that amount and for what purpose it is to be utilized?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The Government of India have decided to make a financial contribution of Rs. 10 lakhs and also to offer five fellowships to UNESCO for its Emergency Programme of financial assistance to Members and Associate Members in Africa for educational development for the three-year period 1961-63.

श्री पी० ना० राजभोज : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि भारत सरकार ने इस सिलसिले में सजेशन किया है कि भारत की मदद से अफ्रीका में एक टीचर ट्रेनिंग इंस्टिट्यूशन खोला जाय ?

डा० कालू लाल श्रीमाली : स्टेटमेंट में तो कोई टीचर ट्रेनिंग इंस्टिट्यूशन का जिक्र नहीं है। स्टेटमेंट में तो यह कहा गया है कि अफ्रीका को दस लाख रुपये की सहायता देना स्वीकार किया है और उससे यह टीचर ट्रेनिंग इंस्टिट्यूशन बनेगा या क्या बनेगा, इस बारे में अभी फैसला करना है।