

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes; it is all over.

SHRIMATI T. NALLAMUTHU RAMAMURTI: Is it not a fact that if these birds are capable of communicating diseases, it should be investigated into and scientific research carried on in the general interest, not only in the interests of India but of the whole world? It is not a question of Mysore or Assam or even of Indian Union.

(No reply.)

ESTABLISHMENT OF STUD FARMS FOR RAISING THOROUGHBREDS OF RACE HORSES

*13. SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the Government's policy regarding the import of horses for taking part in horse races in India; and

(b) whether there is any scheme under Government's consideration for establishing stud farms for raising within the country thoroughbreds of high quality race horses and polo ponies?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA):

(a) The import of horses from Pakistan, Afghanistan and Goa was totally prohibited in December, 1959 as a result of the occurrence of the South African Horse Sickness in the neighbouring and Middle East countries. Import of horses from other countries through commercial channel is also prohibited. It has, however, recently been decided that subject to the production of certificate of inoculation, restricted imports from Pakistan may be allowed during the next 3 years primarily for meeting the requirements of riding and polo ponies. Imports of race horses will also be allowed on a small scale on the condition that such imports are certified to be necessary to meet the existing shortage.

(b) No scheme has so far been drawn up for the purpose. A suggestion to this effect has, however, been made to Government recently.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: May I know from what countries imports of polo ponies and race horses are to be allowed?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: The idea is to import mostly from Pakistan.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: But does Pakistan possess race horses? This is news which has been given to the House by the hon. Minister. I have not known that. Pakistan horses are like Indian horses. They may have good polo ponies but since when have race horses been begun to be bred in Pakistan?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: The hon. Member should know before partition most of the British stud farms were established in that part of India which has now gone to Pakistan and Pakistan has been very anxious from the beginning to export horses to other countries.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Since when has Pakistan been breeding thoroughbred horses? I do know that countrybred horses were being bred in Pakistan and they used to be used in minor horse races. But now he says that even thoroughbreds are to be imported from Pakistan. Since when have they been breeding thoroughbreds?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: Thoroughbreds are also being bred in Pakistan. Even in India we have been breeding thoroughbreds, which have been bred by the British interests in those days.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Where are thoroughbreds bred in India?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: In my own constituency in the stud farm there are very good thoroughbreds.

SHRI BIREN ROY: When is the Government taking up the question of banning horse racing and gambling in India?

(No reply.)

PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION

***14. DIWAN CHAMAN LALL:** Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India participated in the last meeting of the International Air Transport Association;

(b) if so, what was the personnel of the Indian delegation;

(c) whether it is a fact that lowering of air fares and freight charges is not possible without the unanimous approval of the Association and whether this does work to the detriment of the Indian interests; and

(d) whether it is a fact that India has been called upon by the American Civil Aeronautic Board to show cause in respect of our pooling agreements?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN): (a) to (d) I lay a statement giving the requisite information on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) to (d) Government of India do not normally participate in the meetings of the International Air Transport Association which is an unofficial world-wide association of Airlines. Nor did the Government of India participate in the last meeting of the Association. According to the rules of the Association, unanimous approval of the member airlines concerned is required for any changes in the international fares and freight rates. These changes become effective only after the approval of the Governments concerned who can always reject any unfair tariff. Government of India do not therefore con-

sider this arrangement as detrimental to the Indian interests.

Government of India have received no communication from the American Civil Aeronautics Board on the subject of the pooling agreements entered into by the Air-India International. Air-India have however informed the Government that an American carrier has raised with the Civil Aeronautics Board the question of Pool arrangements.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: Do I take it that India is absolutely free to rearrange fares and freights without any obligation of any outside authority?

SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN: There is an Association called the International Air Transport Association of which India is a member. Of course the hon. Member can say that the Government is theoretically free to do anything they like but because India is a member of that I.A.T.A. generally the Government follows the advice provided it does not go against the interests of the country.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: It is not I who say so but in the statement that has been laid on the Table of the House it is stated that these changes become effective only after the approval of the Governments concerned who can always reject any unfair tariff. Is that the state of affairs?

DR. P. SUBBARAYAN: That is quite true but the Government has the right to accept it or not and we have accepted this.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: What I want to ask is this. In this particular instance the Government have accepted the advice. But is the Government free at any time to reject the advice given by them and fix the fares and freights according to their own wishes and their own interests?

DR. P. SUBBARAYAN: That is implied in the answer itself. But the