

fair or for carrying on some sort of subversive activities in this country?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I have no information.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He wants to know whether you will ascertain.

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Yes, Sir. Everything will be ascertained.

COMMISSION EARNED BY THE PORT HAJ COMMITTEE ON BOOKING AIR PASSAGES OF HAJIS

*432. SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of commission earned by the Port Haj Committee, Bombay on air passages booked for Haj pilgrims during the year 1960; and

(b) whether the constitution of the Port Haj Committee permits doing business which entails profit or gains from the Hajis?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) and (b) The Port Haj Committee is a statutory body constituted to render assistance to pilgrims going to Saudi Arabia for the Haj. As a part of its work it undertook, during the last season, arrangements for charter flights with Air India International. The Committee did not receive any commission from the Airline, but as a result of its commercial operations, which included bookings and cancellations of tickets, realised a surplus of Rs. 10,000 after meeting the costs of the charters. The amount has been credited to the Haj Fund, which is utilised for the benefit and welfare of the pilgrims. There is, therefore, no question of a profit or gain from the pilgrims.

*433. [The questioner (Shri M. P. Bhargava) was absent. For answer, vide col. 2761 infra.]

INDIA'S ASSISTANCE TO NEPAL FOR ORGANISING A RECEPTION TO THE QUEEN

*434. SHRI ARJUN ARORA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India assisted the Government or the people of Nepal for organising a grand reception for Queen Elizabeth of the United Kingdom; and

(b) if so, what was the nature of the assistance provided and what it cost?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) and (b) The Government of Nepal requested us to provide on loan coach horses and elephants. This was arranged. The expenses will be borne by the Government of Nepal.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know if they wanted some tigers also?

(No reply.)

*435. [The questioner (Shri V. T. Nagpure) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 2761-62 infra.]

UPGRADING OF QUARTERS IN GOLE MARKET AREA

*436. SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of quarters in Gole Market area in New Delhi up-graded so far; and

(b) the number of officers who are residing in these up-graded quarters and the actual saving these allottees are enjoying by living in these quarters?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA): (a) 1,219.

(b) Out of these 1,219 quarters, 206, are occupied by officers who are entitled to higher class of residences by