1245 Oral Answers

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know if the hon. Minister is aware that a lot of discrimination is wiade while making these drawing teachers permanent and also while transferring them elsewhere?

MR. CHAIRMAN: What sort of discrimination?

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: There have been certain complaints, Sir, that a lot of discrimination has been made here in Delhi. Those teachers who actually deserved to be made permanent were not made permanent but certain other teachers were made permanent.

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Sir, in all such matters it would be much better If the hon. Members write to me so that I can look into them, because these cases do not come to me; they are dealt with by the Directorate of Education. If the hon. Member has any case in view, she should kindly write to me about it and I will certainly look into it.

VIOLATIONS OF AIR SPACE BY PAKISTAN IN PUNJAB AND WEST BENGAL

◆181. SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistani aircraft had intruded into Indian air space in Punjab and West Bengal from January 15 to February 23 this year; and

(b) if so what steps Government are taking or have so far taken to prevent such violations?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) "Protests have been lodged with the Government of Pakistan.

SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: May I know, Sir, how far these Pakistani aircraft entered our territory?

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: There have been a few violations, Sir, during the period mentioned here. One is over the Punjab border and the others are over the eastern territory which was broadly indicated as the West Bengal area, but it is not over West Bengal.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Sir, I would like to know whether these violations have been just on the border or they have been in the interior, whether on the Bengal side or on tha Punjab side.

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: From 15th January to 23rd February there was one violation over the Punjab border—on the 26th—at a place eight miles west of Dinanagar and the other over Gurdaspur and Batala. The aircraft went back to West Pakistan. The other violations—three or four of them—as I said, were over the eastern area, but not in NEFA. It was over certain territories on the Indo-Pakistan border, near Karimganj— mainly helicopters. We had their marks and protests have already been made but there has been no answer.

SHRI BIREN ROY: May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware of some newspaper report that recently an aircraft flew over Calcutta and, when tracked by our radar, it was stated to have flown at 730 miles an hour at the height of 30 thousand feet which is much more than the sonic speed *i.e.* supersonic? Have we any aircraft, interceptor or fighter, which can intercept such a plane flying at that supersonic speed at the height of 30 thousand feet?

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: Sir, I have not seen the report but I have been informed about some report of this character and different versions of it are given. I am sorry I cannot answer the second part of the question.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: Sir, our Canberra was shot down for alleged violation of the Pakistani air-space, but violations of our air space are 1247 Oral Answers

continuing in spite of our protests. May I know if the Government are content with merely lodging protests or whether they have any other method under contemplation?

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: As has been stated in this House in the past, the shooting down of our Canberra was a very unusual international offence and it is not the policy of Government to commit the same offence in regard to violation by other countries.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What he says is: We do not propose to adopt the same practice.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: But what other practice is our Government going to adopt to stop these violations?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Apart from lodging protests, have you any other method to prevent such things? That is what he asks.

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: Well, Sir, the Government is not convinced that the protest method has been exhausted.

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: May I know whether the Pakistan Government has given any reply to our protests?

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

SHRI BIREN ROY: May I know if we propose to have any supersonic aircraft for interception?

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: This does not arise out of this question.

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: May I know, Sir, whether the Government has been able to find out the reason for their coming into our territory?

MR. CHAIRMAN: We do not have that sort of service.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: May I ask whether the hon. Minister is satisfied with the arrangements for detecting such aircraft coming over border areas?

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: So far as this type of aircraft is concerned, yes. But if the aircraft flies at very great height, it is not only not easy for us but others also to detect them. But these are low-flying aircraft and we have noticed their movements in this particular case.

PANDIT S. S. N. TANKHA: What ia the usual international procedure to stop such flights?

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the usual international procedure? That is the question.

PANDIT S. S. N. TANKHA: What is the procedure allowed under international law for preventing such flights?

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the answer to that question?

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: The international procedure is, there are laws—the municipal laws of our country and those of Pakistan, which are identical—if they observe the law, then there will be no violation. If they do not observe, then we take it up internationally.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: In answer to a supplementary by Mr. Biren Roy the hon. Minister said that the question did not arise. If there is a flight over our area, the question of interception does arise. If interception is relevant, then we would like to know whether any arrangement has been made with a view to intercepting such planes?

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: The question was not about interception. The question was interception by * particular type of aircraft.