

information in regard to (a) and (b), the figures that I give subsequently in reply to (c) will disclose what I do not want to say in reply to (a) and (b).

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : It is said that in two cases such pension or allowances were not admissible. Why are they not entitled to these things ?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA : Because, Sir, probably they were not on duty.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : If they were not on duty, why does the question of crash come in ?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA : Sometimes a plane is going from one place to another and some member of the Air Force who may be proceeding on leave also travels with a friend to another station....

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : On a joy ride!

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA : He is not exactly on duty nor on a joy ride. He takes permission to travel in that plane. In that case it is not admissible.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : When he becomes a victim of the air crash having travelled with the permission of the Air Commandant is he not entitled to compensation ?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA : There is no compensation as such. I have said that rules provide for family pensions, death gratuities or children I allowance, etc. These are not paid by way of compensation. Because an officer has lost his life on duty, these concessions are given.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : Have these air crashes occurred due to any mechanical defect ?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA : They occur due to several causes. It is not one reason alone which accounts for J several air crashes throughout the year. ' A Court of Inquiry is appointed every '

time, an air crash unfortunately happens. The recommendations of the Court of Inquiry are thoroughly gone into and given effect to with a view to prevent accidents on account of the same reason in future. I do not think, Sir, I can give more information on this point.

SHRI O. SOBHANI : Would persons not travelling on duty be entitled to allowance ?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : He has already said 'No.'

AN HON. MEMBER : The hon. Minister in his reply stated that he does not know of all these air crashes, but we read of them in the newspaper. Are we to understand from the answer that there are certain crashes which are kept out of the knowledge of the newspaper ?

MR. D E P U T Y CHAIRMAN : Order, order.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : Will the hon. Minister tell us whether the compensation that is paid to victims of air crash is something extra, or is it merely the normal provident fund, normal gratuity, etc. ?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA : It is something extra. I never said anything about provident fund at all. I mentioned family pension, children allowance, children education allowance, and so on, and I do not know how my honourable friend brings in provident fund etc., here.

SHRI B. RATH : Is it not a fact that every case of crash is reported in the press ?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA : These crashes are sometimes reported in the press but that is no reason why I should make a present of all the collected information to foreign intelligence.

DR. P. C. MITRA : Why has the aircraft company not been insured for passengers' lives as the bus services are doing ?