

SHRI B. N. DATAR : There is nothing to prevent them technically. But the State Governments do carry out our instructions.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : Is it a fact that the allowances that are being given in the Hyderabad State are far lower when compared to the allowances being given in Assam ?

SHRI B. N. DATAR : That is the reason why this specific thing has been mentioned to them and they have been requested to bring all the allowances on the same uniform level in the whole of India.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : What is the action taken by the Hyderabad Government with regard to the circular, especially with regard to the allowances ?

SHRI B. N. DATAR : We have not yet received any information on that point.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : Does it mean levelling up or levelling down ?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Order, order.

SHRI M. MANJURAN : Have all the assurances given on the floor of the House been conveyed in the circular sent to the respective Governments ?

SHRI B. N. DATAR : Yes. All the assurances that were given on the floor of the House have been duly conveyed to the State Governments and some of them have already been embodied in the Amendment Act itself.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA : Is it a fact that these instructions by and large liberalise the rigours of the Act ?

SHRI B. N. DATAR : They do liberalise the Act.

KHWAJA INAIT ULLAH : Can an assurance given on the floor of the House make any effect on the Act ?

SHRI B. N. DATAR : Yes. It will liberalise the provisions of the Act.

KHWAJA INAIT ULLAH : When an Act is passed—after passing the Act—can any assurance given by the Minister in charge make any change in the action of the Act ?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Order, order.

ACCIDENTS OF AIRCRAFTS

*129. SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of aircrafts belonging to the Indian Air Force which were involved in crashes during the past one year ;

(b) what are the details of these crashes and what was the loss to life and material ;

(c) whether any compensation was paid to the families of the victims ; if so, at what rate ; and

(d) whether any enquiries were made into the causes of these crashes ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR DEFENCE (SHRI SATISH CHANDRA) : (a) and (b). It is not in the public interest to furnish this information.

(c) Rules provide for the grant of family pensions, death gratuity, children allowance and children education allowance in the case of married officers, and dependent's pension in the case of single officers. In two cases such pensions or allowances were not admissible. In other cases, the applications are under consideration except in one case in which the parents do not wish to apply for a pension.

(d) Yes.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : In how many cases was the compensation accepted ?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA : Sir, I could not give any statistical figure because when I have said that it is not in the public interest to furnish the

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 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 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. DEPUTY 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 ?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA : Sir, I do not follow the question exactly. Which company ?

(No reply.)

BRIBERY CASES

*130. SHRI S. MAHANTY : Will the Minister for HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of cases reported by the Special Police Establishment, Orissa, to the Home Ministry for starting legal proceedings against the parties concerned ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Special Police Establishment, Orissa, reported a long time back against an Executive Engineer stationed at Hirakud for alleged bribery ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the case was entrusted to the Superintendent of Police, Special Police Establishment, Lucknow, for investigation ;

(d) whether the Superintendent of Police, Special Police Establishment, Lucknow, has submitted his final report in the matter ;

(e) what is the total amount of money spent so far on the travelling allowance of that officer in connection with the investigation of this particular case ; and

(f) in how many cases investigated by the Special Police Establishment, Orissa, action has already been taken and in how many cases decision is still pending ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR) : (a) One.

(b) and (c). The Inspector General, Special Police Establishment forwarded to the Branch at Puri a complaint against an Executive Engineer and others in connection with the Hirakud Works and the case was entrusted to the Deputy Superintendent of Police, Special Police Establishment, Puri, for investigation. For special administrative

reasons the Superintendent of Police, Special Police Establishment, Lucknow was directed to supervise this investigation and other complaints by the Inspector-General, Special Police Establishment.

(d) The case is still under investigation and the final report has not yet been received.

(e) Rs. 888-2-0.

(f) 43 and 15 cases respectively, during the three years from October 1949 to September 1952.

SHRI S. MAHANTY : May I know if there are still more cases of excess payments reported against this particular officer ?

SHRI B. N. DATAR : I should like to know which officer is referred to because there are two different cases. The case at (a) is different from the cases in (c) and (d).

SHRI S. MAHANTY : I refer to the officer against whom these charges have been made.

SHRI B. N. DATAR : Is it the officer in the Hirakud Works case ?

SHRI S. MAHANTY : Yes. I want to know if still 13 or 14 more cases of extra payments have been made against this man ?

SHRI B. N. DATAR : Against that officer, there are certain matters which are being investigated into. Therefore it is not possible at this stage to say how many cases there are and indicate what actions are being taken by the Government.

SHRI S. MAHANTY : This Superintendent of the Special Police Establishment at Lucknow—may I know what are his attainments in the Police Department ?

SHRI B. N. DATAR : He was sent, because at Puri, Orissa, there was only a Deputy Superintendent of Police, and it was found in the course of investigation that the matter required to be