

Assignments in US by senior officers of Ministry of External Affairs

2732. SHRI SHYAM SUNDAR MO-APATRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of senior officers of Ministry of External Affairs who have taken jobs in multinational corporations in US on retirement or on premature retirement during the last years; and

(b) what are the names and present assignments of such ex-officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) None to our knowledge, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Dinner hosted by Vice-Chairman and Managing Director, Shipping Corporation of India

2733. SHRI LADLI MOHAN NIGAM: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Vice-Admiral R. K. S. Gandhi, Vice-Chairman and Managing Director, Shipping Corporation of India, recently hosted a fabulous dinner in honour of Shri C. P. Srivastava, Secretary-General, International Maritime Organisation at Bombay;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a seven course dinner was served alongwith premium brands of imported whisky and other fancy liquors;

(c) if so, the expenditure incurred on the dinner and liquor, separately;

(d) the number of persons invited to the dinner and what is the policy for sending invitations for such dinners; and

(e) whether the Government of India were consulted before hosting such a dinner as it violates Government directives on economy measures; if so, the details thereof and if not, the action proposed to be taken against him for hosting such dinner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Vice-Admiral R. K. S. Gandhi, Vice-Chairman and Managing Director, Shipping Corporation of India hosted a dinner in honour of Mr. C. P. Srivastava, Secretary General, International Maritime Organisation and Mrs. Srivastava on 30th December, 1983. The dinner was not fabulous.

(b) The dinner was of buffet type and vegetarian and non-vegetarian dishes were served. Some liquor of both Indian and foreign brands was served but this was purely a personal arrangement of Vice-Admiral Gandhi and was not paid for by the S.C.I.

(c) Total expenditure incurred on the dinner was nearly Rs. 30,000 including hall charges, decoration, band etc. The S.C.I did not incur any expenditure on liquor.

(d) 182 persons from among the Shipping and business community of Bombay, Indian Navy and the S.C.I were invited to dinner. The policy in such matters depends upon the occasion and the dignitary who would be the Chief Guest.

(e) Consultation with the Government is not required for hosting a dinner as it is fully within the competence of S.C.I. The S.C.I took care to see that the expenditure was kept to the minimum.

Resentment amongst Officers of S.C.I.

2734. SHRI LADLI MOHAN NIGAM: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a great resentment amongst the senior officers of the Shipping Corporation of India against Vice-Admiral R.K.S. Gandhi, Vice-Chairman and Managing Director of Shipping Corporation of India;

(b) whether it is also a fact that senior officers have filed suits against the Corporation; and

(c) if so, the names of the officers who have filed suits against the Corporation; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the senior cadre officers are demoralised by the behaviour, favouritism and nepotism of Vice-Admiral Gandhi and whether Government propose to look into the functioning of the Corporation; if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI):

(a) No

(b) and (c) No. In one case only, an officer by name Commander K. Chelliah of the SCI has filed a suit against Government, BPE, SCI etc. for certain appointments made by Government, of Board level Directors.

(d) No. The overall performance of SCI is reviewed by the Government from time to time.

Providing deluxe buses on DTC Routes

2735. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ordinary and deluxe buses plying on each D.T.C. route by the D.T.C. and those operating under DTC route/number-wise;

(b) what are the reasons that on some routes the number of deluxe buses provided exceeds the number of ordinary buses and on some routes no deluxe bus has been provided; and

(c) whether Government propose to provide deluxe buses in good condition on all such DTC routes where they are not plying; if so, by when if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI):

(a) Required information is given in the Annexure. (See Appendix CXXIX, Annexure No. 80].

(b) and (c) Deluxe buses are introduced on each route but are introduced on selected routes keep in view the overall traffic requirement, percentage of the clientele having preference for deluxe service and specific demand of such a clientele. The number of deluxe buses is less than ordinary buses on all routes except Route No. 500 from where there is specific demand for more deluxe services.

Direct bus services from Harinagar New Delhi

2736. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL
SHRI DHANESHWAR
MAJHI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that no direct bus is available from a number of blocks in between Harinagar Depot and Harinagar Clock Tower to Central Secretariat, Krishna Bhawan, Udyog Bhawan etc. and people working in those areas have to depend fully on the chartered buses by paying triple the fare;

(b) what are the reasons for not sanctioning such bus routes for those areas so far;

(c) whether Government propose to provide any direct bus route from such blocks of Harinagar to the Central Secretariat, Krishna Bhawan and Udyog Bhawan, etc; if so, by when and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI):

(a) to (d) Yes, Sir. However, in view of various operational constraints and the situation of different blocks of residential colonies, it is not practicable to connect each block to Central Sectt. and other points with a direct bus service. DTC ensures that the commuter is able to get a bus from a point at walkable distance and is able