

5. C. Thambilangam.
6. L. Periasamy.
7. K. Nagappan.
8. L. M. Veeran.
9. L. Valthilingam.

No two permits have been issued to any person belonging to Scheduled Castes in respect of National Permits and Composite Permits. In respect of Stage Carriage Permit Thiru K. Sivaloganandan who was issued one permit in 1979 against the general quota has been allotted, another one in 1982 against the reserved quota by the STA as per the criteria laid down by it.

Ban on the entry of Sikhs in Saudi Arabia

*391. SHRI JAGANNATHRAO JOSHI:
SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the entry of Sikhs in Saudi Arabia is banned;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard and Saudi Arabia's response thereto;

(c) whether there is a similar ban on any section of Indians in any other country; and

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Crash programme for providing employment to the rural unemployed

@*392. SHRI SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of

@Previously Starred Question 212 transferred from the 14th March, 1983.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated number of unemployed persons in rural areas of the country;

(b) how many persons are working full time and how many part time in a year in the rural areas; and

(c) whether Government have any crash programme under consideration for providing them employment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI HARI NATH MISHRA): (a) The number of unemployed persons in the rural areas was estimated at 15.36 millions in March, 1980 on the basis of rate of unemployment observed in the National Sample Survey 32nd Round (1977-78).

(b) About 148 million persons were working full time and about 41 million persons were working part time in rural areas as per the 32nd Round of Survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation in 1977-78.

(c) The problem of unemployment cannot be tackled by a crash programme. The employment generation depends upon the sum total of economic activity both in public and private sectors. Various schemes of Central Government and the State Governments in sectors like Agriculture, Irrigation, Animal Husbandry, Forestry and Rural Works etc. generate employment in rural areas on a continuing basis. This Ministry has also been implementing special programmes like National Rural Employment Programme (NREP), Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM) for maximising the employment opportunities in rural areas.