

SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA: Did they have a licence? Sir, I seek your protection. Does this company have a licence to manufacture tooth brushes?

MR. CHAIRMAN: They probably need notice.

SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI: They have no licence at all.

SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA: Let him reply.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: For tooth brushes, I will need notice.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 63

Indian experts assigned to foreign countries

*63. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN†:

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Experts assigned to foreign countries through

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Syed Shahabuddin.

the Department of Personnel during 1981;

(b) their break-up country-wise;

(c) their break-up profession-wise or vocation-wise; and

(d) the percentage of scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, backward classes and Muslims among them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): (a) to (c) Country-wise, profession or vocation-wise break-up of experts selected through the Department of Personnel during the year 1981 is given in the statement.

(d) Percentage of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Backward classes and Muslims among them is not available.

Statement

Break-up of Experts Selected Country-wise and Category-wise for Bilateral Assignments from 1-1-1981 to 31-12-1981

Country	Doctors	Nurses and other paramedical staff	Professors/teachers/Education officers	Engineers/Architects/Geologists and other technical experts	Financial experts, Accountants etc.	Economists and Statisticians	Misc. experts	Total
1. Abu Dhabi	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
2. Algeria	..	..	26	21	..	..	..	47
3. Bhutan	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
4. Brazil	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
5. Ethiopia	..	..	39	..	..	..	..	39
6. Guyana	5	..	..	10	4	..	..	19
7. Iran	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
8. Iraq	3	..	82	14	..	..	..	230
9. Kenya	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	3
10. Lesotho	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
11. Libya	24	..	2	126	..	..	..	152
12. Morocco	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2
13. Mozambique	..	..	..	16	..	..	..	16
14. Nauru	1	..	..	5	..	..	..	6
15. Nigeria	40	..	197	79	..	..	..	317

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
16. Oman	2	..	..	..	3
17. P.D.R.Y.	8	..	..	..	..	8
18. Seychelles	2	4	..	..	..	6
19. Somalia	4	..	..	..	4
20. Suriname	1	..	1
21. Sri Lanka	7	..	..	..	7
22. Trinidad & Tobago	.	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
23. Tanzania	2	20	19	..	..	41
24. U. A.E.	1	..	..	..	1
25. Uganda	1	5	..	..	6
26. West Indies	.	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
27. Y.A.R.	7	36	..	..	..	43
28. Zambia	.	3	..	..	16	2	..	..	21
Total	.	83	..	366	490	31	1	..	980

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Mr. Chairman, the numbers that have been cited are surprisingly small—only 980 experts sent out on foreign assignments in one year's time. And in that, too, I find the three countries, Iraq, Libya and Nigeria, make for over 70 per cent of that number. And only two professions, in fact, cover 86 per cent of the total number of assignments. Now, as we know, a far larger number of Indian experts are being employed abroad. In fact, even in those countries which are mentioned here, many more persons are being recruited directly. So it is obvious that there are two channels of recruitment: one is the Government-to-Government channel of recruitment, which is what this statement provides, and in addition, there is the open market recruitment. Now, my question is: does the Government keep any track of the direct recruitment of Indian experts by foreign Governments or foreign semi-Government agencies? I imagine there is no legal bar against direct recruitment of an Indian national by a foreign agency. I presume so, and I do not want any hurdles to be placed in the way. But I would like the Government to keep a tab on the number of experts who are being directly recruited, who are leaving the country and going abroad. I would like to know whether the Department of Personnel or any other Department of the Government of India, apart from keeping a record of those requests which it itself processes, has those data.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: The Foreign Assignments Section of the Ministry of Personnel is primarily in charge of registration of such of those persons, technocrats and otherwise, who intend to go to foreign countries, especially to the developing countries of Africa. We have got a system of getting these persons registered and according to that registration when any request comes

from these countries, then we will provide them with the necessary panel of names by which they make their own selection. About directly calling for applications, without consulting the Department of Personnel which is what the honourable Member has been asking, whenever a person is selected or is invited for a particular company or for a particular country, then, he has to apply for a no-objection certificate from the Department concerned. In that case we will go through all these factors and see whether a no-objection certificate could be given to that particular person, whether he fulfils all these conditions. The honourable Member has also asked another question with regard to maintaining statistics about such of those categories of persons who, without getting...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Open market.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: Yes, open market. I require some notice. I will give the information necessary.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: The second supplementary that I have is that on a number of occasions I have received complaints about the procedure followed in the Department of Personnel when the people are registered; they are registered only for a given time and the registration has to be renewed and the result is that a person may forget to renew his registration and sometimes I am told, he is deliberately left out. This has led to a lot of corruption. A lot of complaints have come to me about the people being selectively kept out of the panel or being selectively included in the panels sent to foreign Governments. In fact, if I may inform the honourable Minister, it is possible to pay a thousand rupees or something like that to the Department and get your name on a particular panel. Now, my question is, in this view of the matter, is it necessary to have

this periodical registration? If an expert offers himself for service in a developing country and if he has registered himself once, until he opts out on his own, why is he not kept on the panel so that as and when an opportunity comes, on the first-come-first-served basis, his name is taken up automatically and processed? This is the point, I would like to add to this. Part (d) of the question has not been replied to. I am really surprised that the Department has the application, the Department has the forms filled in at the time of registration and yet the Department does not know about the persons whom it itself has put on the panel and who have been selected by a foreign Government, whether the person so put on the panel and so selected for a foreign assignment, is a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe or which community he belongs to; the Ministry seems to be unaware of such details. That seems to me to be totally surprising. I could ask, for example, for a list of these 900 people and anyone of us could then gather as to which community or which university or which State each one come from. My question is: Is the Government prepared—if it is not already doing it—in order to keep a certain amount of balance among the persons who are selected and to keep an element of justice in the process of selection, to maintain statistics on the basis of universities, on the basis of States and on the basis of the various communities like the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and Muslims?

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: Sir, the countries who want these experts do not have any reservation. But we have got for local recruitment to Government services and we do observe certain reservations. Sir, this is a matter of experts.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Sir, I am not asking for reservations.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: Sir, it is a matter of experts that are registered with us and here it is also not desirable to have a community-wise or State-wise or university-wise break-up. That will create a lot of problems. Here it is purely a question of technical experts who do not have to declare their community or caste and they are being sent to the other countries. So, it is not in the interest of these people or the Government to maintain such things.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: Then, about the registration, Sir, registration for three years has been kept. The honourable Member has suggested...

MR. CHAIRMAN: After that it lapses.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: The fact is that a person gets himself registered and it will lapse after three years. Meanwhile if he gets an assignment, then he will not renew his registration. Only to keep the statistics latest, only to make the latest statistics available, it is done and it is only to make those persons aware, of the fact that they can register afresh if they so desire and there is nothing hanky-panky about it nor is there any deliberate attempt on the part of the Government to benefit certain people. Sir, the allegation made by the honourable Member is most unfortunate. He has made certain allegations against the Government. They are not borne out by facts.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: Sir, a senior Member like Mr. Shahabuddin, who has himself been in the Government service has made certain allegations which is unfortunate.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not an allegation as such.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, may I clarify? Permit me to make a clarification.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You want to make a clarification?

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Sir, I did not ask for any reservation and I am fully aware of the fact that the foreign governments do not make any reservation. I only wanted the factual information in order to enable ourselves to understand whether a balance is being maintained and whether the Government is maintaining the statistics. I did not want the Government to preferentially deal with certain groups.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is all right. You want information on what kind of people or what group of people are being sent.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: I want this information this Session itself. I think the information is available.

SHRI HAREKRUSHNA MALICK: Otherwise, they can pick up their own men and send them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think they can supply the information.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: Can we tell any State that they are not sending according to their own quota? Can we say like that? What sort of difficulties it will lead to?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is only wanting statistics on what has happened, from 1980 onwards how many of one group or another have been sent.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: I have already submitted that this kind of community-wise break-up we will not maintain.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, you are right.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: It leads to several complications.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes; I know that.

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Sir, the Minister has said that they are not sending experts community-wise to the distant countries. I do not know whether the experts are not available in the communities like the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the backward classes or whether the figures are not available. I would like to know whether people from these communities also apply for registration and whether they are also being considered. I think we have to tell our people in this country that there are experts in the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, among the minorities and the backward classes and they are also being selected for foreign assignments. We will have to select the experts from the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, the minorities and the backward classes also and we need not say that we are not selecting on the basis of the community. But experts are available among these communities and we have to show that we are going to recognise these people, these experts from the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and the minorities and the backward classes and we are going to send these experts also for foreign assignments.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes.

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Sir, I want these details. At least, Sir, the Minister should clarify whether there are experts among the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes, the minorities and the backward

classes and whether they have registered themselves with the Ministry and whether their applications have been considered.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you suggesting that the Ministry goes about searching for experts or that the experts have to get themselves registered?

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: That means proper circulation has not been made.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is a different thing.

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Sir, the statement says that there are no experts among the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes, the minorities and the backward classes.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: No, Sir, It is not correct. I can appreciate the feelings of the honourable Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, I know. They are agitated over their exclusion.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: No, Sir. There is no question of any exclusion. What we have said is that we do not maintain community-wise, caste-wise or university-wise statistics. That is what we have said. It will create several complications. We do not want to do that...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I appreciate that. What they want to know is whether there are experts from those communities within the list.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: There must be. What else could it be? The Government has taken several steps; even in the matter of recruitment to IAS we are conducting special classes to coach these people. We are taking all steps to see that these people, who are neglected for

ages, come up even in their educational standards. The Government has spared no effort in giving them expertise in education. In this matter there may be several Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and minority people also. What I said was we do not want to maintain such sort of list which will lead to several complications.

Kota Atomic Plant

*64. SHRI V. VENKA:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY†:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 2076 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 18th March, 1982 and state the steps Government have taken to rectify permanently the defects in the Kota Atomic Plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ELECTRONICS AND ENVIRONMENT AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH): Special procedures to repair the leak in Unit I are being developed along with necessary tooling. Unit-II is under annual maintenance shutdown. Two defective heat exchangers are being replaced with new heat exchangers and some of the blades on the turbine rotor are being replaced with new blades.

The Government have also recently constituted a committee of specialists to make a technical assessment of the working of the Rajasthan Atomic Power Station. Further action will be taken after the recommendations of the Committee are received and examined. Efforts are being made to bring both the units back on line as early as possible.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri V. Gopalsamy.