because of washing. If washing improves in the washeries, ash will go down. Why is there this unseemly haste to improve coking coal? Sir, four suggestions were given for improvement: Improve blast furnaces of operating parameters, non.coking dust injection in blast furnances, production of formed coke with non.coking coal, etc. Without going into these steps, why is there this haste to pay nearly Rs. 100 crores for importing coal from Australia. A delegation has already gone there. It has cost us Rs. 50 lakhs.

5

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: All I can sav is that all the figures that he has given lakhs, crores, thousands and hundreds are all wrong. And what he callsinnocent or not innacent— is hardly the case in point here. Sir, for his little personal education, I must tell him that you cannot wash high ash coal to the extent that it can become low ash coal. It is a question of the grade that is available in a particular country. The Steel Authority had got an agreement with Coal (India) for bonus and penalty for reducing the ash content from the minimum 16.5. Unfortunately, Coal (India) has never been able to earn any bonus, but they have gone on paying penalty to the Steel Authority. Certainly it is not that Hindustan Steel owes so much as mentioned by the hon. Member. But it is the normal run.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Sir, on a point of order. This is the reply of the Minister of Energy. .

(Interruptions)

AN HON MEMBER: There can be no point of order during Question Hour.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: He has said that Hindustan Steel and Indian Iron & Steel Co., Bokaro, have to pay this amount. Is it wrong?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: At that time, it might have been so. But it is not so now.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: What is the . position now? . . .

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Kulkarni.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA G. KULKAR-NI: I would like to ask the hon. Minister, when they could survive without importing low ash coal for the last twenty years, how this sudden necessity has arisen today? What was the Research and Development Department of the Steel Ministry a3 well as Coal (India) doing for all these days to ensure that good quality coal is made available for the purposes of development of the steel industry?

' SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: My Ministry is one of the consumers of coal, for which I have to pay. My problem is that the ash content is not satisfactory. Therefore, we are thinking of importing some coal. I cannot answer what happened 20 years back. I can give the answer. But I do not propose to answer on, behalf of the Energy Minister... (Interruptions) I am not shy. I am only stating the position of my Ministry in this matter.

Opening: of passport offices in each State

*92. SHRI PRAKASH MEHROTRA: f

> SHRIMATI HAMIDA HABIBULLAH:

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA: SHRIMATI LEELA DAMODARA MENON:

SHRI SATPAUL MITTAL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to open a passport office in each State so as to expedite the issue of passports; and

fThe question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Prakash Mehrotra.

7

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

THE MINISTER OP EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): (a) and (b) It is Government's objective to open passport offices in States which presently do not have one. To begin with, Regional Passport Offices will be opened in the States of Karnataka and Rajas-tban in the early part of the next financial year. In order to provide greater convenience to the public, it has also been decided to open as many sub-regional passport offices as possible in States which do not have a passport office and where the volume Of present workload does not justify the opening of a full-fledged passport office, in the next financial year. The details are being worked out.

श्री प्रकाश महरोत्रा : मान्यवर, जब से सरकार ने पासपोर्ट का श्रधिकार हम लोगों को दिया है वैरिफिकेशन को तब से मैं देख रहा हं कि लखनऊ में मेरे पास 15-20 लोग रोज वैरिफिकेशन के लिए साते हैं। पिछले दी महीने से मैंने यह देखा है कि एक सिगल ऐक्सेप्शन को छोडकर जितने लोग ब्राये हैं वैरिपिकेशन के लिए वे माइनारिटी कम्युनिटी के लोग आये हैं। मैंने जब जानकारी की तो उन्होंने बताया कि अनता सरकार में इधर जव से ग्रार०एस०एस० का डोमिनेंस हो गया है. इस घवराहट से लोग पानपोर्ट जनवा रहे हैं। . . (Interruption) तो मैं सरकार से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि जो नार्मल कोर्स में जाना चाहे उसे तो कोई वकावट नहीं है, लेकिन अगर इस तरह लोगों में शंका हो गई है तो इसका कोई समाधान वह करेंगे ?

श्री ग्रटल बिहारी वाजवेयी : सभापति महोदय, मेरी समझ में नहीं ब्राता कि मैं इस मुबाल पर हंचु या रोऊं? मझे वड़ा ग्राफसोस है। पासपोर्ट के नियम सरल किये गये हैं इसलिए कि ग्रधिक से ग्रधिक लोग हिन्द्स्तान के बाहर जा सकें। ध्रगर बाहर जाकर वे अपनी रोजी रोटी कमा सकते हैं तो उन्हें मौका मिलना चाहिए। लेकिन इस सवाल पर घार ० एस ० एस ० को लाना घीर यह कहना कि माइनारिटीज बाहर जा रही हैं तो यह नीयत पर शक करना है। मैंने इसलिए पासपोर्ट के नियम सरल किये हैं कि मसल-मानों में डर पैदा हो गया है और यह कि वह हिन्दुस्तान छोडकर चले जायें, अगर आए यह सिड कर दें तो मैं आज मंत्रिमंडल से त्यागपव देने के लिए तैयार हं। . . .

(Interruptions)

श्री प्रकाश महरोत्रा : मैंने स्थिति बताई है। मैने लखनऊ की स्थिति बताई है। लखन उ. के पासपोर्ट आफिस में दो महीने के ग्रांकडे देख लीजिए, एक ऐक्सेप्शन के बाद अगर कोई दूसरी कम्युनिटी का आदमी आया हो तो मैं अपनी सीट से रिजाइन करने को तैयार हं।

श्री नागेश्वर प्रसाद शाही : स्थिति यह है कि पाकिस्तान से लोग हिन्दस्तान में म्रारहे हैं। . . .

(Interruptions)

श्री ग्रटल बिहारी वाजनेयी : इस सदन में बात कही जा रही है तो कोई जिम्मेदारी के भाव से बात कहनी चाहिए। सदन चाहे तो मैं पासपोर्ट के नियमों को कड़े करने के लिए तैयार हं। लेकिन अगर आप यह आरोप लगायेंगे तो यह ठीक नहीं है. . .

(Interruptions)

श्री प्रकाश महरोत्रा : इस तरह की शंका हो रही है, इसीलिए मैंने यह सवाल पूछा है।

श्री ग्रटल बिहारी बाजनेवी: यह बिल्कुल गलत बात है, सौ फीसदी गलत है। सदन में इस प्रकार की वानें कह कर आप इस शक का प्रचार कर रहे हैं. . .

(Interruptions)

श्री प्रकाश महरोत्रा : तो ग्राप इसको ्**डिनाई** कीजिये।

9

भी धटल बिहारी बाजपेयी : मैं इसको डिनाई करना भी ग्रपनी बेइज्जती समझता

श्री सीताराम फेसरी : श्रीमन्, मैं एक ब्यवस्था का प्रश्न उठा रहा हं. . .

{Interruption}

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no point of order. AH of you please resume your seats. Mr. Mehrotra, you have put your question and he has replied. Now, do not create any unnecessary complications. Why do you all stand up at a time? Let me first finish the list. Now Smt. Habibullah.

SHRIMATI HAMIDA HABIBUL-LAH: Sir, as far as I am concerned, I am very grateful to the hon. Minister for having brought out this facility to the people who want their passports because I for one now that it has provided tremendous help to the people who want to go outside for jobs, for better prospects and various other things or whatever the reasons may be. The point I would like to mention is that while this facility has been very good for the people who want passports, it has created a lot of difficulties for Members of Parliament. And the main difficulty is that apart from the fact that I am prepared to spend the whole night to sign the papers. I find that the MLAs have been recommending almost everybody and anybody without any sense of responsibility. When I asked the MLAs, they said that they must recommend everybody who belongs to their constituency. Now, I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to when he would start an office in TJttar Pradesh and when he would give the MLAs full permission to take the responsibility and sign the papers,

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: There is already a passport office in Lucknow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is it not in UP?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: 1 thought that Lucknow was in UP.

SHRIMATI HAMIDA HABIBUL-LAH: My question was about MLAs.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Sir, I know, that Members of Parliament have been put to difficulty.

AN HON. MEMBER; Very .great difficulty.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: But they get a chance to contact the people.

SHRI RANBIR SINGH; MLAs should also get that chance.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: The whole arrangement will be reviewed and the question whether the MLAs should also be allowed will be considered.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK; Even the Panchayat members.

श्री सवाई सिंह सिसोदिया : सभापति जी, माननीय मंत्री जी इस वात को जानते होंगे कि सन् 1976 के क्तियम्बर महीने में पासपोर्ट के रीजनल ग्राफिसर्स की एक कांफेंस हुई थी। उस कांजेंस ने बहत-सी सिफारिशें की थीं। उन सिफारिशों में से एक सिफारिश यह भी थी कि प्रत्येक राज्य में एक रीजनल पासपोर्ट ग्राफिस खोला जाय। इसके साथ ही माननीय मंत्री जी की यह भी मालम है कि धार्डिनरी पासपोटों की संस्था 6 लाख तक पहुंच चकी है और इनसे लगभग 215 लाख रुपयों की ग्रामदनी हो रही है। इसके विपरीत इस काम में खर्च बहुत ही कम होता है। अभी जब आपने उत्तर दिया तो आप काफी उत्तेजित हो गये। मैं चाहता हं कि आप गांतिपूर्वक मेरी बात मुने और उसका ठीक उत्तर दें। ग्राप ग्रभी दो राज्यों में इस प्रकार के पासपोर्ट जाफिस खोल रहे हैं।

मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि इन सारी परिस्थिति ों को ध्यान में रखकर जो वह सिकारिस की यई है कि अन्य राज्यों में भी पासपोर्ट आफित खोले जायें, क्या आप दूसरे राज्यों में भी इस प्रकार के पासपोर्ट आफित खोल रहे हैं? खासतौर पर मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या आप मध्य अदेश में कोई पासपोर्ट ग्राफिस खोल रहे हैं?

श्री ग्रटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : सभापति महोदय, हमें कोई परेशानी नहीं है। इस्तियं हमने फैसला किया है कि भोपाल में, श्रीनरूर में, पटना में ग्रीर भुवनेश्वर में भी सब-रीजनख पासपोर्ट ग्राफिस खोले जायें।

श्री सवाई सिंह सितोदिया : कब खोले जायेंगे ?

श्री ग्रटल बिहारी वाजपेयी: बहुत जल्द, तत्काल। मगर तत्काल थोड़ा लम्बा हो सकता है।

. SHRI SYED NIZAM-UD-DIN: Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Minister for saying that a Sub-Regional Passport Office in Srinagar also will be opened. But the Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir had recently urged upon the Government of India to open a Regional Passport Office in Srinagar. In view of the fact that a large number of people who live in Azad Kashmir and Pakistan have their relations on this side of the border, most of them want to go to Pakistan to see their relations, and if a Regional Passport Office is opened in Srinagar, it will facilitate their visit to their relations.

MR. CHAIRMAN: please be brief.

SHRI SYED NIZAM-UD-DIN: Secondly, I have a feeling that the passports of people who want to go to Pakistan from Kashmir take a longer time than of these going from any other part of the country. I would like to know the rpasons that are responsible therefore. Will the hon.

Minister kindly look into this matter and facilitate the visits of people living in Kashmir to their relations in Pakistan?

to Questions

SHRI ATAL BIHAHI VAJPAYEE: Sir, we have already decided to open a Sub-Regional Passport Office itt Srinagar. If the demand for passports goes up, that office will also be upgraded. I know there are difficulties in the way of citizens from Jammu and Kashmir visiting their relations on the other side of the line of control but we are trying to make matters easier. When I visited Pakistan, this question was discussed and certain decisions are to be taken on both sides. I hope more and more people will be in a position to travel from this part to the other part of Jammu and Kashmir.

श्री जगदीश जोशी : श्रीमन्, केन्द्रीय कक्ष में आते समय एक ख्लोक लिखा है :

भ्रयं निजः परोवेनि गणना लघुचेतसाम् । उदारचरितानामनु वसुधैव बृटुम्बकम्।।

इस सिद्धान्त को दृष्टि में रखते हुए क्या माननीय मंत्री जी पासपोर्ट की प्रया को समाप्त करने के लिये संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ में कोई प्रथास करेंगे शांकि दुनिया का हर आदमी हर देश में बिना किसी इजाजत के, बेरोकटोक जा सके और जो राष्ट्रीय दीवारें हैं, वह टूटें?

श्री श्रटल बिहारी वाजपेबी: सभापति जी, एक श्रादर्श विश्व की कल्पना जोशी जी ने सामने रखी है। मैं उस ग्रादर्श से सहमत हं। मगर जो यथार्थ है, मुझे उसका सामना करना है।

श्री जगदीश जोशी : प्रयास आप करेंगे या नहीं करेंगे ?

SHRI G. LAKSHMANAN: Will the hon. Minister be good enough to accept the demand that passport forms should also be printed in the

respective regional language of each State so that the people can read them and fill up the forms themselves? Therefore, will he consider the demand for printing of these passport forms in the respective language of the State also?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Sir, at the moment, the passport forms are being printed in English as well as in Hindi. If they are also printed in other languages, the forms will become unwieldy?

SHRI G. LAKSHMANAN; You need not print all the forms in all the languages. For instance, in Tamil Nadu, you can print them in Tamil and English. This is quite possible and people can fill the forms themselves.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is your suggestion. It is a suggestion for action.

SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN: May I know from the hon. Minister as to how many passport applications were rejected in Delhi during the last eleven months and who these unfortunate people were?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Sir, I require notice for this question.

SHRI JAGJIT SINGH ANAND: Sir, there are two aspects of my question. Firstly, I must register the feeling of the people in Punjab in connection with the liberalisation of grant of passport facilities and I say that it is a very welcome measure. It seems to me that the citizens of every civilized country should have a right to a passport and the steps taken by the Janata Government in this direction are welcome. But these steps have also created certain complications. Punjabis were globetrotters always. But now they are going out in such large nu'-n^vi°rs that many bogus companies have cropper! UD and they are charging a 'ot of money.

They take them to Kuwait and other places where they suffer a miserable condition. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is aware oi it and if so, what steps he is going to take. That is number one. Number two is, there is such a rush for passports, especially in Chandigarh office mainly from the Punjab area. Will the hon'. Minister consider two suggestions? One is opening of a separate passport office in Chandigarh, because the Punjab Government is situated there, and secondly, opening of a sub-regionl passport office in Jullundur, because people from Jullundur and Hoshiarpur seeking passports are in an overwhelming majority. I would also like to know whether there is going to be an increase in the fee to Rs- 100 from next month, a3 it appeared in some newspapers. If that is so, it will be very much unjustified.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Sir, I know, a large number of people are going from Punjab and there is a rush in the Chandigarh office. We have decided to open a sub-regional office either in Jullundur or Ludhiana as agreed to by the Government of Punjab. Sir, about the first part of the question, there are bogus companies and agents who are trying to misguide the people. They are making money and people are given promises of employment. They go abroad and they find themselves in great difficulty. About 300 people have been' brought back to India at the cost of the Government. We are taking stern measures against these boaus companies. But those who want passport, they should also beware of these companies. There are registered companies, approved by the Government. Their services atone should be taken advantage of. We have asked the police to be vigilant and take stern measures against such bogus companies.

RTTRT JAG.TTT STWHTT ANAND: I wanted to know whether it was con-

templated to increase the fee to Rs. 100. If that is so, it is horrible.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I have visited many passport offices. People say: You can take Rs. 500 but please give us the passport within two weeks. And that is what we are trying to do.

SHRI BRAHMANANDA PANDA: I am happy that the Minister has given to the Members of Parliament, an opportunity to sign these passport papers. We come in contact with these people who face some procedural difficulties at times. For example, it requires a Member of Parliament to put his seal. I think most of us do not possess a seal. In the case of certain passport offices, we mention our Divisjon No. and that is accepted. Certain offices do not accept it Therefore, I request the Hon. Minister to make a provision whereby if we give our Division No., it should be enough and it should make the document valid.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: While I was in jail. I found that only the prisoners are known by their numbers. Members of Parliament should not be known by their Division Nos. It is not a very costly affair to keep a seal and if the Member_s want, we are prepared to supply seals to them.

شوی محصد یونس سلیم: یه بات بالکل صحیح هے که جب سے شوی اثل بہاری باجیدی صاحب ایکسترفل افہرس کا منستر هوئے هیں پاسپورت کے ملئے میں بری سہولیت اور آسانی هو گئی هے یہ بھی صحیح هے وہ وہ اس بات کی کوشش کو رہے

ھیں که لوگوں کو زیادہ سے زیادہ أساني هو ليكن يعجو أب كا أفيسرس کا گروپ ہے وہ کوئی نه کوئی پریشانی ییدا کرتا رهتا هے · گذشته مرتبه میں حیدرآباد گیا تو سہرے ساملے یه شکیت پیش کی گئی که ریجدل یاسپورے آفس کے دفتر میں اس بات يو اصرار كيا جاتا هے كه درخواست دیئے والے جن جن کفتریز کا نام ايلى درخواست ميں بتائيں اس میں یہ بھی بتائیں کہ وہاں ان کو کون سهورت کريکا جب وهان جانيکي-میں عرض کوتا ہوں کہ فرض کیجگے ایک شخص دوبئی جانا چاهتا هے وہ نام دے سکتا ہے لیکن باسپورے لیلے کے لئے لوگ چاھتے ھیں که چب هم دوخواست دين تو تمام ملکوں کے نام دے دیں تاکہ بار بار ان کو یاسهررے کے دفتر میں نکلیف نه الهاني پوے - اگر يه شكايت صححیم ہے کہ هر ملک کے متعلق ية تفصيل مانگي جاني في كه كون سپورٹ کرے گا کہاں تھریڈگے تو یہ سختی هو کی - اس لئے میں جداب ملستر صاحب سے یہ چاھوں ولا أمر بات كا اشورنس دين كه ولا ایسی کوئی سختی پاسپورٹ کی درخواست دیلے والوں پر عائمد نه کويوں -

ंश्रि महम्मद युन्स सलीम : यह बात बिल्कुल सही है कि जब से श्री ग्रटल बिहारी वाजपेयी साहब एक्सटर्नल एफेयर्स के मिनिस्टर हुए हैं पासपोर्ट के मिलने में बड़ी सहलियत भीर भ्रासानी हो गई है। यह भी सही है कि वह इस बात की कोशिश कर रहे हैं कि लोगों को ज्यादा से ज्यादा ग्रासानी हो लेकिन यह जो भ्रापका भ्राफीसर्स का ग्रुप है वह कोई न कोई परेशानी पैदा करता रहता है। गुजिश्ता मर्तबा में हैदराबाद गया तो मेरे सामने ये शिकायत पेश की गई कि रीजनल पासपोर्ट ग्राफिस के दपतर में इस बात पर इसरार किया जाता है कि दरख्वास्त देने बाले जिन-जिन कंट्रीज का नाम श्रपनी दरख्वास्त में बतायें उसमें यह भी बतायें कि वहां उनको कीन सपोर्ट करेगा जब वहां जायेंगे। मैं शर्ज करता हूं कि फर्ज कीजिये एक शख्स दुबई जाना चाहता है वह नाम दे सकता है लेकिन पासपोर्ट लेने के लिए लोग चाहते हैं कि जब हम दरख्वास्त दें तो तमाम मल्कों ने नाम दे दें ताकि बार-बार उनको पासपोर्ट के दफ्तर में तकलीफ न उठानी पड़े। ग्रगर ये शिकायत सही है कि हर महत के मत्तलक ये तफ़सील मांगी जाती है कि कौन सपोर्ट करेगा कहां ठहरेंगे तो ये सख्ती होगी। इसलिये मैं जनाव मिनिस्टर साहब से ये चाहंगा कि बह इस बात का एशोरेंस दें कि वह ऐसी कोई सख्ती पासपोर्ट की दरख्वास्त देने वालों पर आईद न करें।]

श्री ग्रटल बिहारी वाजपेयी: श्रीमन्, मैं भी हैदराबाद हो ग्राया हूं ग्रीर पासपोर्ट में क्या मुश्क्तिलात ग्राती हैं इसका भी मैंने जायजा लिया है लेकिन

شری محصد یونس سلید - آپ تو الیکشن کی لئے گئے تھے اور وہاں آپ نے اس کو الیکشن کی نظار سے زیادہ لیا تھا -

†[श्री मुहम्बद युनूस सलीम : ग्राप तो एलेक्शन कम्पेन के लिये गये थे ग्रीर वहां ग्रापने इसको एलेक्शन की नुबतायेनजर से ज्यादा लिया था।]

श्री स्रटल बिहारी बाजपेयी: नुक्ते नजर कोई भी हो पासपोर्ट जल्दी मिलना चाहिए। सभापति जी, यह सही नहीं है कि श्रलग-श्रलम देशों का नाम लिखना पड़ता है। श्रव तो साऊथ श्रफीका और कोलोनी श्राफ रोडेशिया को छोड़कर सारी दुनिया के लिए पासपोर्ट दिये जा रहे हैं। एक साल बना ली गयी है और श्रव श्रलग श्रलग नाम लिखने की जरूरत नहीं है।

شری محصد یونس سلیم : وه کهتے هیں که افیذیوت دینجگے که آپ کو کہاں پر اور کون شہورت کویکا -

†[श्री सुहम्मद युनूस सलीम : वह कहते हैं कि एफीडेबिट दीजिये कि श्राप को कहां पर ग्रीर कौन सपोर्ट करेगा।]

श्री ग्रटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : ग्रव यह जरूरी नहीं है।

श्री भूषिन्दर सिंह : श्रीमन्, यह बहुत ग्रन्छा है कि पासपोर्ट लेने के बारे में काफी सुभीता हो गया है। लेकिन सिक्ख यात्री साल में चार दफा पाकिस्तान में जाते हैं, 2 दफा लाहौर, एक दफा नानकाना साहिब और एक दफा पंजा साहिब जाते हैं। इसमें दिक्कत यह है कि हर यादा के लिए याद्रियों को फिर एक नया पासपोर्ट बनाना पड़ता है इसमें काफी दिक्कत है वे पैसा भी खर्च करना पड़ता है। साल में 4 बार जाना पड़ता है इसलिए में चाहता है कि जैसा आपने बाकी पासपोर्ट में कर दिया है कि सब जगह जा सकते हैं उसी तरह हमारे साथ भी ऐसा कर दें तो रोज रोज की तकलीफ से हम बच

सकते हैं। यह काम फिर आसानी वाला हो जायगा। यातियों को जो हर दर्जे नयी परेशानी, नया खर्च फरना पडता है और नया पासपोर्ट बनवाना पडता है वह खत्म हो जायगा ।

श्री ब्रटल बिहारी वाजवेयी : श्रीमन, मैं तो ऐसा ही करना चाहता हं। सच्चाई तो यह है कि भारत ग्रीर पाकिस्तान के बीच में म्राने जाने में जितनी सुविधा हो सके उतनी होनी चाहिए। हम इसके लिए तैयार हैं। मैं पाकिस्तान गया था तब मैंने वहां पर भी इस मसले पर चर्चा की थी। मैं उम्मीद करता हं कि ऐसे रास्ते निकलेंगे कि लोगों को श्राना-जाना बढेगा ग्रीर कम से कम जो लोग साल में 4 दफा जाते हैं उन्हें 4 दफा जाने की इजात नहीं लेनी चाहिए एक दफं का लिया हम्रा पासपोर्ट ही काफी होना चाहिए।

श्री शिव दयाल सिंह चौरसिया : मैं मंत्री महोदय से एक क्लेरीफिकेशन चाहता था। पासपोर्ट बनाने में यह सर्टीफाई करना पड़ता है कि:

'I know him for more than two years and he is financially sound.'

श्रव हर एक श्रादमी के लिए वडा मश्किल है कि वह किसी के बारे में जान सके। मेरे साथ तो बड़ी डिफीफल्टी यह है कि मेरे वालिद ने जब मैंने वकालत शरू की थी तब कसम खिलवायी थी कि तुम बगैर किसी को जाने हए शिनास्त नहीं करोगे। इसलिए मैंने तमाम पासपोर्ट वालों को वापस कर दिया और इसलिए मेरी कई ब्रादिमयों से दश्मनी हो गयी। मैं जब उनको जानता नहीं हूं तो कैसे कर सकता हं इसलिए या तो मंत्री महोदय यह कर दें या हम लिख दें कि:

I know him through this man.'

किसी भी किसी के जरिये जानना होगा बरन इट इज वेरी डिफीकल्ट . . . (Interruptions) थौर इजाजत दे दें कि जिस दूसरे बादमी के जरियं किया है तो उसको हलफ कर सकें।

श्री ग्रटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : सभापित महोदय, अगर दूसरे आदमी के जरिये आप फिसी को जानते हैं ग्रीर वह दूसरा ग्रादमी तसल्ली बख्श है तो आप उसको जानते हैं। ऐं जिख दीजिये। लेकिन ग्रगर ग्रापको भरोसा नहीं होता तो मत िखिए, बड़ी विनम्प्रता से मना कर दीजिये कि मैं नहीं लिख सकता हं। इससे ग्रगर थोड़े लोग नाराज हों तो चिंता मत करिये।

to Questions

SHRI B. N. BANERJEE: Sir, we are grateful to the Minister of Ex. ternal Affairs for simplifying the procedure to get a passport, But, Sir, recently, we saw in the newspapers a report that they are going to set off the advantages which he has given in the matter of facility in getting the passport easier, by making the passport forms much more lengthy, very much like the income tax forma which very few of us can fill up, and secondly, by raising the passport fee which was Rs. 15 earlier to Rs. 25 and to Rs. 100. Is it one of the methods for meeting the deficit finance in the Budget for the next year?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I entirely agree with the hon. Member that the passport form is very lengthy and it should be made short and we are trying to do it. So far as the question of increasing the passport fee is concerned, the matter is under consideration.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Sir, this one question has taken 35 minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is an important question.

DR. M. M. S. SIDDHU: Regional office at Lucknow is so over-worked that ordinarily it will take six months for one to receive the passport. Will the hon. Minister think of augmenting the staff as well as take some more office accommodation where the people can be seated; otherwise, they have to stand on the road for hours together?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Is it a question or a suggestion?

Oral Answers

MR. CHAIRMAN: Both.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: There is a proposal to hire another building. The procedure i_s being further liberalised and I hope that there will be no difficulty so far as Luck-now is concerned.

SHRI P. K. KUNJACHEN: Sir, due to rush of applications for passports in Kerala, there has been a report in * the Press that another passport office is going to be opened at Calicut and the building etc. is going to be hired by the Government. I want to know what progress has been made in that regard. Similarly, more staff was to be appointed at Ernakulam. Actually, at one time, the people crowded there and the police were forced to lathi-charge to disperse the people. Considering all this, will the Government take immediate steps to open a pass-port office at Calicut and also appoint more staff in the present office?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: We have already increased the staff in the Ernakulam passport office. It necessary, the staff will be further added. We have also decided to open a sub-office in Calicut. Arrangements are being made and as soon as preliminary steps are taken, subpassport office will be opened.

SHRI VISWANATHA MENON: It is very important to open passport offices all over India. But one thing the hon. Minister must consider. In Ernakulam, he has appointed 68 daily wagers and 48 permanent staff. People have been working there for years together. He is not making them permanent. People are recruited on daily wages. The question of permanency of these workers must also be considered. Out of 68 workers on daily wages in the Ernakulam office, many persons have put in more than eta

year to two years. I want to know as to how many of them will be made permanent.

to Questions

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Sir, in a democratic set-up, only the Ministers are temporary, more temporary than others. I know that in Ernakulam

MR. CHAIRMAN: Ministers can afford. But what about the employees?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: . .there are appointments made on an ad hoc basis and the people have been working for more than one year or two years and they are getting daily wages.... (Interruptions) But they are better than those who are getting no salary at all. Those who are temporary will be made permanent in due course of time. But obviously they will have to undergo a test and their experience will also be taken into consideration. But the policy is to make temporary appointees permanent as early as possible.

•93. [The questioner (Shri C. P. Majhi) was absent. For answer vide col. 34 infra.]

Steps to improve Sino-Indian Relations

♦94. SHRI NRIPATI RAN J AN CHOUDHURY:

> SHRI JAGJIT SINGH AN AND: t DR. V. P. DUTT:

SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported statement of the Chinese Vice-Premier Mr. Teng Hsiao Ping, to the effect that China is eager to bring relations with India closer on a bilateral basis;

tThe question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Jagjit Singh Anand.