

(iii) Central Board of Excise and Customs have devised a procedure to ensure that the imported rags in the form of ready-made garments are actually mutilated.

Shortfall in production of controlled cloth

1227. SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question No. 163 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 8th May, 1973 and state:

(a) whether the textile industry has since cleared the backlog in controlled cloth production;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any penalty has been imposed for non-fulfilment of the obligation, if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A.C. GEORGE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The matter is under consideration.

Staff agencies in L.I.C.

1228. DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the clerks in LIC are given staff agencies, by virtue of which they act as agents of the corporation in addition to their normal duties as clerks; and

(b) whether the field staff has lodged any protest against this practice, and if so, the action Government propose to take to end this arrangement?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Yes, Sir. L.I.C. Staff Regulations do not prohibit Class III and Class IV employees (other than Superintendents) from acting as Insurance Agents of the Corporation, after office hours.

(b) While the Development Officers have not lodged any protest against the system of staff agencies, the Life Insurance Agents' Federation of India, Calcutta has strongly advocated the discontinuance of this practice.

As long as the LIC continues to appoint part time agents and offer insurance agencies to employees of other institutions, it might be difficult to discontinue this practice for its own staff who have enjoyed this facility for many years.

1229. [Transferred to the 29th August, 1973.]

1230. [Transferred to the 30th August, 1973.]

Setting up of Tourist Office in Brazil

1231. SHRI D. Y. PAWAR:

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up a Tourist Office in Brazil;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the number of tourists coming to India from Brazil at present and the foreign exchange earned from them; and

(d) what would be the likely increase in the number of tourists next year as a result of opening the tourist office there?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) and (b) A temporary post of Director under the Department of Tourism was created in June, 1973 in the Embassy of India at Brasilia, to promote tourism to India from Brazil and the neighbouring countries, especially Argentina, Venezuela and Bolivia. A permanent officer of the Department, who is the wife of the Indian Ambassador to Brazil, was appointed to the post w.e.f. 29-6-1973 on

a nominal salary of Re. 1 per month. The officer will not draw any allowances; she will be entitled only to reimbursement of the cost of travelling (when she does not travel with her husband) on duty for tourism promotion, subject to a ceiling of \$ 2,000 per annum. No separate staff has been sanctioned for the office.

(c) 718 tourists from Brazil visited India during 1972, resulting in estimated foreign exchange earning of Rs. 10.7 lakhs.

(d) About 3,600 tourists from Central and South America visited India in 1972. The opening of a tourism promotion office in Brazil is an experimental measure, to tap the potential market for tourists in that country (whose economy is growing very rapidly) as well as in neighbouring countries. The question of setting up a regular tourism promotion office in Brazil will be considered after assessing the results of the present special arrangement---which is extremely economical---for about a year. It is not possible to forecast the likely growth of tourism from the area next year.

Rules for posting of Officers in Tourist Offices Abroad

1232. SHRI D. Y. PAWAR:

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no rules have so far been framed and no tenure fixed for foreign postings of the officers of the Department of Tourism although India Tourist Offices have been functioning abroad for many years:

(b) if so, what steps are being taken in the matter; and

(c) what rules are being applied at present for the selection of these officers for foreign postings?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH):

(a) to (c) The selection of officers

for foreign postings is made on the basis of their experience and suitability. The tenure of foreign postings is determined by factors related to administrative efficiency, availability of suitable officers and the promotional needs of the region concerned.

Central Tourist Directors

1233. SHRI D. Y. PAWAR:

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Central Tourist Directors with foreign wives and the number of such officers who are at present posted in foreign countries;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Central Tourist Directors with foreign wives are given continuous tenures in foreign countries and minimum tenures in India; and

(i) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, the number of years so far spent by these Directors on foreign postings and in India?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH):

(a) There are three Directors of the Department of Tourism who have foreign wives. At present they are all posted abroad.

(b) and (c) The posting of officers of the Department in foreign countries depends on their availability and general suitability for these assignments. The record of postings of the three officers concerned is as below:

| The name of the Officer | Posting in India | Posting abroad |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Shri R. Rawat | April, 1959 to January, 1962 | February, 1962 to August, 1967 in Paris. |
| | September, 1967 to August, 1968 | September 1968 to date in Geneva. |