

ISRAEL'S PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

*672. SHRI M.ASAD MAD ANI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of international conferences and seminars at Government and non-Government levels held in India during 1968 in which the representatives of Israel took part; and

(b) the reason for issuing visas to the representatives of Israel for attending such conferences and seminars ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b) The required information is being collected from the concerned Ministries and Departments of the Government and will be placed before the House as soon as available.

NATIONAL INTEGRATION THROUGH AIR AND DRAMAS

*673. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) what is the programme for promoting national integration through the All India Radio during the year 1968-69;

(b) whether there is any proposal for arranging dramas for the purpose; and

(c) if so, whether special invitations will be given to the Members of Parliament for participation if they are talented in that art ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. K. SHAH) : (a) A.I.R.'s programme for promoting national integration during 1968-69 consists of features, talks, symposia, plays, interviews, poems and songs through which the composite tradition and culture of the Indian people over the years is sought to be projected.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No special invitation will be extended to Members of Parliament as such but only on account of their acknowledged standing, if any, in that art.

श्री राजीव के विवाह के लिये इटली से प्राप्त बाक्स

*674. श्री राजनारायण : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगी कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि उनके सुपुत्र श्री राजीव की शादी से एक सप्ताह पूर्व इटली से 24 बाक्स आये थे ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि इन बाक्सों के साथ कोई नहीं आया था और उन्हें प्रधान मंत्री के निवास से टेलीफोन किये जाने पर (सीमा) शुल्क का भुगतान किये बिना छोड़ दिया गया ;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि (सीमा) शुल्क का भुगतान किये बिना उनको अमरीका से एक "फर कोट" प्राप्त हुआ ; और

(घ) क्या यह भी सच है कि कोई आयल पेंटिंग भी आया था, जिस पर (सीमा) शुल्क नहीं दिया गया और जिसकी कीमत कम दीखाई गई थी ?

[BOXES RECEIVED FROM ITALY FOR SHRI RAJIV'S MARRIAGE]

*674. SHRI RAJNARAIN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that 24 boxes were received from Italy a week before the marriage of her son, Shri Rajiv;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these boxes came unaccompanied and were released without paying (Customs) duty, after a telephone call from the Prime Minister's House;

(c) whether it is a fact that a furcoat from the U.S.A. was received by her without payment of (Customs) duty; and

(d) whether it is a fact that an oil painting was also received for which (Customs) duty was not paid and that it was under-invoiced ?]

प्रधान मंत्री (श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी) : (क) में (घ) अन्तर्निहित आरोप सर्वथा निराधार है

† []English translation.