

INSTRUCTIONS TO DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES

♦637. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA : Will (he PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry of External Affairs has issued any guidelines or instructions to our diplomatic representatives to appraise the country to which they are accredited about our foreign policy periodically;

(b) if so, what are the guidelines;

(c) whether any coordination is being maintained between the Ministry and the Missions in this respect; and

(d) whether any reports are received from our Missions about the reaction of the respective countries about our foreign policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b) From time to time, Heads of Missions are given directives on general or specific issues about which India's viewpoint needs to be clarified or emphasised to the receiving State. The directives depend on the nature of the issue in question.

(c) Yes, Sir, the closest coordination is maintained in this respect.

(d) Yes, Sir.

RESERVATION OF POST IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXHIBITION AND VISUAL PUBLICITY

*638. SHRI B. K. GAIKWAD : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a post of Assistant in the Department of Exhibition and Visual Publicity was reserved for Scheduled Tribe candidates during 1967-68;

(b) how many applications from Scheduled Tribe candidates were received;

(c) whether it is a fact that the post has been dereserved and filled by inferior non-Scheduled Tribe candidates; and

(d) if so, the reason thereof?
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THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. K. SHAH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Applications were received from 15 Scheduled Tribe candidates. Of these, 6 who fulfilled the qualifications, experience, etc. prescribed for the post, were called for a written test but only two took the test. One Scheduled Tribe candidate was interviewed even though he did not secure the minimum qualifying marks in the written test. He was found by the Selection Committee to be far below the requisite standard. Further action to recruit a suitable scheduled tribe candidate against the reserved vacancy is being taken in accordance with the instructions issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs. The post is vacant at present.

REASONS FOR THE GRANT OF VISAS TO SOUTH AFRICANS TO VISIT INDIA

*639. SHRI ARJUN ARORA : SHRI A. M. TARIQ : DR. ANUP SINGH :
SHRI M. M. DHARIA : SHRI Z. A. AHMAD : DIWAN CHAMAN LALL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Un-starred Question No. 75 given in the Rajya Sabha on November 21, 1967 and state the reasons for which visas were given to the nationals of South Africa during the year 1966 and the first ten months of 1967?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : The majority of the 45 visas given to South African citizens in 1966, and the 65 visas given during the current year, were for visits on religious grounds. A few South Africans were permitted to come to India to meet relatives and friends and to visit places of tourist interest. In accordance with our policy, such visas were strictly confined to cases where we were satisfied that the applicants did not actively subscribe to the policy of apartheid followed by the South African Government.

RUSSIAN COMMENTATOR ON THE MAO PLAN

*640. SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPA-YEN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :