

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. K. SHAH): (a) and (b) The Soviet Embassy had tendered no advice to the Government of India in respect of the film "Dr. Zhivago" in India, but had drawn our attention to the fact that the exhibition of the film "Dr. Zhivago" would be embarrassing to the Soviet Union. After very careful consideration of the matter Government decided to pass the picture with such cuts as were considered necessary keeping in view the susceptibilities of a friendly country.

BROADCAST FROM SANGLI STATION OF A.I.R.

200. SHRI G. R. PATIL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Farm and Home Programme of the All India Radio was proposed to be Broadcast from the Sangli station instead of Poona; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the change?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. K. SHAH): (a) and (b) Originally it was proposed to set up the first Farm and Home Unit in Maharashtra at Sangli. However, on a suggestion from the Maharashtra Government that Poona was more centrally located and the Unit operating from there could cover other areas more effectively than from Sangli, it was decided to set up this Unit at Poona. This gives an added advantage of closer liaison between A.I.R.'s Farm and Home Unit and the Department of Agricultural Information Section is also located at Poona. A Farm and Home Unit at Sangli is now proposed to be set up during the Fourth Five Year Plan.

हज यात्री

201. श्री राजनारायण : क्या वंदेशिक कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि मुगल लाइन्स के 'इस्लामी' जहाज से 2 दिसम्बर, 1966 को बम्बई से जो यात्री हज के लिए चले, उन्हें सऊदी अरब सरकार के द्वारा लगाई गई पाबन्दियों के कारण कठिनाई उठानी पड़ी; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो यह असुविधा कैसे हुई और सरकार ने इसे दूर करवाने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही की ?

†[HAJ PILGRIMS

201. SHRI RAJNARAIN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Haj pilgrims, who left Bombay on the 2nd December, 1966 by the ship 'Islami' belonging to the Moghul Lines, were put to inconvenience due to the restrictions imposed by the Government of Saudi Arabia; and

(b) if so, how this inconvenience was caused and what steps were taken by Government to get the same removed?

वंदेशिक-कार्य मंत्री (श्री एम० सी० चागला) : (क) और (ख) 12 दिसम्बर को जब ये यात्री जेद्दा पहुँचे, तो स्थानीय अधिकारियों ने उन्हें स्वास्थ्य परीक्षण के लिए संक्रामक-रोग अस्पताल में भेज दिया, लेकिन जब वे अच्छी सेहत में पाये गये, तो दो दिन के भीतर-भीतर उन्हें छुट्टी दे दी गई। सऊदी अरब सरकार से स्वास्थ्य सम्बन्धी अपेक्षाओं की सूचना अगर जहाज छूटने से मुतामिक समय पहले मिल जाती, तो यात्रियों को जितनी असुविधा हुई, उतनी भी नहीं होती। यह सूचना जहाज रवाना होने के दिन मिली थी और इसके मिलते ही भारत सरकार ने ऐन वक्त पर घोषित स्वास्थ्य सम्बन्धी उपायों के खिलाफ कड़ा विरोध प्रदर्शित किया जो कि सामान्य अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय सफाई विनियमों के अलावा लगाए गए थे। सऊदी अरब के अधिकारियों ने हमारी यह

†[] English translation.