

and wife are in Government employment, they should be transferred to the same place. Has his Ministry tried to remain in touch with the other Government Departments in the case of those persons who have got their wives in Government employment and has his Ministry tried to see that they are transferred to the same station?

DR. S. CHANDRASEKHAR: Sir, this is an important question. I am glad the hon. Member has raised it. As long as the husband and wife are both doctors, it is our policy to see that they are both transferred together, because we do not want to separate them, although we would like to do it—I might jokingly say to Mr. Mani—for demographic purposes.

DR. M. M. S. SIDDHU: May I know, Sir, from the hon'ble Minister whether any representation has been made by the C.H.S. Doctors, saying that they would not like to do domiciliary visits?

DR. S. CHANDRASEKHAR: Yes, Sir. Unofficially some doctors met me the other day. They represented the matter to me. I am examining it.

श्री राजनारायण : क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि फडरेशन आफ मेडिकल एसोसिएशन एंड सोमाइटीज आफ इंडिया ने भी कोई स्मृतिपत्र दिया है और यदि जानकारी है तो उसमें उनके जो जो सुझाव हैं स्वास्थ्य और मेडिसिन को ले कर उस सम्बन्ध में सरकार ने कोई विचार किया है, जैसे कि पर्सोनेल के बारे में, वेड्स के बारे में, डिसपेंसरीज के बारे में, सप्लाय आफ मेडिसिन के बारे में, जनरल हेल्थ एजुकेशन के बारे में। और क्या उन्होंने उस स्मृतिपत्र में क्रिएशन आफ मेडिकल एजुकेशन ग्रांट्स कमिशन के बारे में भी सरकार में कोई निवेदन किया है कि मेडिकल ग्रांट्स कमिशन भी बनाया जाय।

DR. S. CHANDRASEKHAR: Sir, I am not aware of any memorandum

submitted to me. Perhaps it has come to the Ministry but it has not come to my attention.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, ऐसा है कि इस सवाल का जवाब पहले भी मंत्री दे चुके हैं, इसी सवाल का जवाब पहले मंत्री दे चुके हैं और मैं आपको बता दू कि पहले इस सवाल को पूछा था श्री सीताराम जयपुरिया ने और यह अनस्टांड क्वेश्चन नं० 437 पहले आ चुका है और इसके बारे में हमने यहां पर डिसकशन मांगा।

श्री सभापति : ठीक है, राजनारायण जी He has not yet any information.

श्री राजनारायण : तो मैं आपको जरिये मंत्री महोदय से यह रिक्वेस्ट कर सकता हूँ कि मंत्री महोदय इस मैमोरेण्डम को मंगा लें और मंगा कर इसमें जो बहुत ही वैल्यूएबिल सजेरेंस हैं उन पर गौर करें।

DR. S. CHANDRASEKHAR: I shall do so. Thank you.

ABOLITION OF 'P' FORM

*143. /PROF. SATYAVRATA SIDDHANTALANKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry have recently asked the Government for the abolition of 'P' form; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction to this demand?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This has been carefully examined but Government is unable to accept the suggestion.

PROF. SATYAVRATA SIDDHANTALANKAR: May I ask, Sir, if it is not a fact that since devaluation the Government has been very anxious for export promotion and import substitution? So for these two objects it is very necessary that businessmen should go outside the country and establish contacts with their counterparts, establish collaboration agreements, attend seminars, visit institutions and bring in new ideas so that after coming here they are able to establish such types of business as may help in export promotion and import substitution. Will the Government see to it that the obstacles which come in the way because of this 'P' forms are removed?

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: Businessmen are given all facilities for this purpose.

SHRI SURESH J. DESAI: If the hon'ble Finance Minister is not prepared to abolish the issue of 'P' forms, could he kindly enlighten us whether he would be willing to liberalise the issue of 'P' forms specially for business purposes, expansion of trade, commerce and industrial development?

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: Genuine cases are always accommodated.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: May I know, Sir, whether the hon'ble Minister said that businessmen have got all facilities for travels abroad? May I know, Sir, whether the Minister is aware that these travels abroad have not led to export promotion but they are rather undertaken for handling by them their foreign exchange accounts in foreign banks which are hidden from the country?

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: I have no evidence to substantiate the allegations.

PROF. SATYAVRATA SIDDHANTALANKAR: May I know, Sir, if it is not a fact that there are no definite rules and regulation for rejection of 'P' forms and that the applicant is simply given a rejection letter? Is it not advisable that the applicant should be called to the office of the Reserve Bank of India, the matter should be discussed with him and valid reasons should be given in writing so that he may know where he stands?

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: I do not think it is necessary to give reasons in every case.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I hope the Finance Minister will recall a letter he wrote to me on the subject when he was the Finance Minister before Mr. Kamaraj intervened. He wrote on my enquiry that 'P' form was meant only to safeguard the foreign exchange and if there were *bona fide* declarations indicating that there would not be any foreign exchange expenditure on the part of the Indian citizens going abroad there was no question of withholding the 'P' form. Now, has it been brought to his notice after he has come that this 'P' form arrangement is being utilised by the Home Ministry in order to invalidate valid passports, that is to say, of denying travel facilities to passport holders on different grounds? Mr. Krishnamachari told me once that it was not his Ministry. The matter went to the Home Ministry and it is the Home Ministry which said that persons should not be allowed to go abroad even when they held a passport. The 'P' form mechanism was utilised to stop it. I should like to know whether the hon'ble Finance Minister, in keeping with the letter and the assurance, will consider the entire matter in order to remove this kind of interference by the Home Ministry?

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: I have no complaints with me pending about this matter at all. If a complaint is sent to me, I will certainly look into it.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know, Sir, if the Government has laid down any guide-line for the Reserve Bank to decide the applications for 'P' forms or has the matter been left to the whims of the Reserve Bank and the exigencies of the various Ministries?

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: The Reserve Bank is a very responsible body. The hon'ble Member should know that. The Reserve Bank has certainly direction but the discretion is within the instructions given by the Finance Ministry.

SHRI SANTOKH SINGH: Sir, apart from business industrial relations, parents can visit their children who have settled there. May I know, Sir, how many times they can do so? Is there any limit to their visits?

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: They are always considered. Whenever it is necessary for them to go there they are allowed.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: Sir, I would draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister, though you, to the important part of the question of Mr. Bhupesh Gupta. 'P' forms are really meant to preserve foreign exchange. Is it a fact that the Home Ministry, instead of the Finance Ministry, is using these as a subterfuge to deny passports or foreign tours to people?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister has replied that no such complaints have come to him. If they come to him, he would look into them.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I myself wrote letters.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: May I say that the question of passports does not relate to the Finance Ministry? The question may be directed to the Home Ministry.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, the point that Mr. Bhupesh Gupta

made was that passports become useless because 'P' form is refused. Although they have valid passports, the Ministry of Home Affairs intervenes and says that 'P' form should not be given.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: I do not think that is the case.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If cases like this are reported to him, he would look into them.

SHRI C. D. PANDE: The main consideration in stipulating this 'P' form was to conserve foreign exchange. But a study of the figures of foreign exchange has shown that since the introduction of 'P' form, instead of conserving or earning more foreign exchange from our citizens abroad, the figure has dwindled. May I know, Sir, whether the Government will realise that the mechanism of 'P' form has not helped in any way in the preservation of foreign exchange? Therefore, it should be abolished.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: 'P' form has been introduced to stop leakages of foreign exchange and it is serving a useful purpose. I do not agree with my hon'ble friend that it has not served the purpose.

†REDUCTION IN EXCISE DUTY ON SUGAR

*6. **SHRI N. R. M. SWAMY:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the sugar manufacturers have demanded a reduction in Excise Duty and, if so, what is the reaction of Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): Yes, Sir. The Government have considered the matter but have not found it possible to reduce the Central Excise Duty on sugar.

†Transferred from the 20th March, 1967.