

the question of these pilots is concerned, I am informed that they had taken British Passports. What would be the effect of acquiring a British Passport, whether they lose Indian nationality or not are all legal questions.

(Shri A. M. Tariq stood up.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, Mr. Tariq, you have had your say.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: The Minister while replying said that he was not aware of the implications of the acquisition of British Passports, whether the persons concerned lose the nationality of the country to which they belong or not. Is it the contention of the Government that an Indian who takes up a British Passport does not change his nationality also?

SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN: I am afraid the Question Hour is not meant for declaration of policies.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: This is not your business. It is the Chair's business.

SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN: I am talking about the rules of the House.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: Even that is not for you. It is for the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Tariq, it is not also any of your business to intervene.

SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN: Moreover, I know very many reputable scientists who have foreign passports but we want them to come back. For example, in the scientific pool there are a number of scientists who have foreign passports and we are anxious that they should come back and do the work in India.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether there are any set rules in Air-India for the re-employment of those employees of theirs who had left service earlier by their own choice or were asked by the Air-India to leave their service?

SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN: I do not think, Sir. I am not aware of any hard and fast rule like that but still, the usual practice is that if they go to other airlines, great precaution is taken in re-employing them.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: How is it that the hon. Minister is not sure of the fact that in order to get a British passport, one does not necessarily have to be a British subject? In the case of people belonging to the Commonwealth, it is much easier to get this kind of passport. It should be known to the Government. You are a part of the Commonwealth. Don't you know that?

SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN: That is a legal point.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Legal point is a fact. I am not asking about policy. He also said that he would not like to elaborate the policy but I am asking this: How is it that even after the matter had been brought to their notice, he does not know exactly what the requirements are for a person to get the passport of a foreign country, especially that of England?

SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN: I know, for example, that the High Court of a State has pronounced that acquisition of a foreign passport does not mean loss of nationality.

MOHINI SUGAR MILLS LTD.

*301. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any information that the Mohini Sugar Mills Limited, Warsallyganj, Gaya, closed down on the 10th of March, 1964 due to non-availability of cane and financial mismanagement;

(b) if so, what are the arrears of Government dues, workers' wages and sugar-cane growers against this factory; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure smooth working of this factory in the ensuing season?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): (a) The Mills closed on 16th February, 1964, for the current season. According to the Government of Bihar, the Board of Directors decided upon final closure of the mills from 10th March, 1964, on grounds of continued cane shortage.

(b) It is reported by the State Government that the workers' wages are being cleared. The other dues, approximately, are:

(i) Dues to State Government for loan and cane cess .. Rs. 21.43 lakhs

(ii) Cane price dues to sugar cane growers .. Rs. 0.02 lakhs

(c) The matter is under the examination of the State Government and their proposals are awaited.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: May I know whether it is a fact that constant reports of mismanagement were there against this sugar mill? And, taking this fact into consideration, may I know whether Government will consider the desirability of appointing an authorised controller to run this mill in the coming season?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: It is for the State Government to make such a recommendation and then we will consider it under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act and appoint a committee to go into the affairs. Then, if necessary, we will appoint an authorised controller. We have also got powers under the Defence of India Rules which perhaps we may not invoke.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Sir, is it a fact that the Government of Bihar has made a recommendation to the effect that this sugar mill is not

running properly and hence intervention is necessary in this matter?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: Sir, the information now conveyed by the Bihar Government is to the effect that due to lack of cane supply this mill had to close. The hon. Member knows that because of competition from gur and khandsari, several mills had to close and my hon friend was vociferously contesting this portion.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Sir, is it not the policy of the Government to see that sugar mills which are not running properly due to mismanagement are taken over and run by the authorised controllers in Bihar and in eastern Uttar Pradesh?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: We cannot follow such a broad policy. As has been pointed out in this hon. House before, we have appointed a committee to go into the question of rehabilitating uneconomic units. We are awaiting its report and we would consider the recommendations in due time and decide such issues as are necessary.

SHRI D. THENGARI: What is meant by "the workers' wages are being cleared"? I want to know the percentage of the total amount due to the workers which has been paid to them.

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: Sir, the workers' wages are being cleared. This means that there may not be much outstanding, Sir.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know if this is the only mill that is closed for non-availability of cane or there are other mills in the country, in Bihar and U. P., that are closed on account of non-availability of cane?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: Most of the mills are already closed due to non-availability of cane. Out of 192 factories, I think, about 25 to 30 only are now working.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: In view of the fact that some factories have closed down because of shortage of cane—majority of the factories as the Minister has said—why is the Government also considering at the same time giving more licences for new sugar mills?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: This is a seasonal affair; in fact, by March-April most of the factories generally close down. The season generally comes to an end by the end of April or beginning of May.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: In view of the fact that a large number of sugar factories have closed down due to shortage of sugarcane, may I know whether the Government still thinks that the target for sugar production will be achieved?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: With regard to the target, I think, we may be able to reach about 26 lakh tons including the production for the short season in the South. We may reach a little less than 25 lakh tons in this season, and in the supplementary season we may be able to produce another one lakh tons so that we may reach about 26 lakh tons.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: When do the Government expect the Report of the Committee appointed to investigate into the non-economic units of sugar factories?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: That Report will be submitted shortly.

*302 [The questioner (Shri Sitaram Jaipuria) was absent. For answer, vide col. 2201 infra.]

**RUNNING TIME OF DE LUXE TRAIN
BETWEEN BOMBAY AND NEW DELHI**

*303. **SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state why the running time of the De Luxe train between Bombay Central and New Delhi has been increased from the 1st April, 1964 when the train appears

to arrive in time but the same is detained outside New Delhi or at Bombay Central for about 15 to 20 minutes every day?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): The running time of 25 Dn and 26 Up bi-weekly Air-conditioned Expresses between Bombay Central and New Delhi has not been increased, with effect from 1st April, 1964. As a matter of fact, their running time has been reduced by 20 minutes in the Down direction and 15 minutes in the Up direction as compared to their running time prior to 1st April, 1964.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Is it not a fact that the De Luxe train arrives a few miles outside New Delhi and is detained there for twenty minutes, and in the other direction also it reaches Dadar station en route to Bombay Central and is detained there for about twenty minutes or in the yard of the Bombay Central station nearly every day, and why is not its running time cut down if this is a fact?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: So far as Delhi is concerned, the 25 Dn Express was not detained outside Delhi even on a single occasion during April.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: It was my own experience a fortnight ago.

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: That may be that day. (Interruptions). So far as Bombay is concerned, there have been four occasions in April when this train was held up outside the station but that was due to certain operational needs.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: May I ask whether it is not a fact that not only the De Luxe train but the Frontier Mail coming to Delhi is also detained between Mathura and New Delhi at Nizamuddin or other