

RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, the 14th December, 1960/
the 23rd Aghrayana, 1882 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

REGISTRATION OF BERTHS FOR HAJIS ON THE 'FIRST COME FIRST SERVED' BASIS

*376. SHRI ANSARUDDIN AHMAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether registration of berths for the Haj pilgrims when they sail from Bombay on pilgrimage to Mecca is done on the 'first come first served' basis;

(b) whether the Hajis take their turn and return to India in the order they sail from Bombay and by the same ship; and

(c) whether there is any organisation at Jeddah to help the Hajis when they return on completion of the Haj and if so, what is the composition of that organisation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) Registration of berths is normally done ship-wise on the 'first come first served' basis.

(b) On the return trip under the 'batch system' adopted by the Government of Saudi Arabia pilgrims are required to leave in the same order in which they arrive in Saudi Arabia, that is, those arriving by the first inward sailing are expected to leave by the first outward sailing. However, in exceptional cases on compassionate or other grounds earlier repatriation is possible through the assistance of the Indian Embassy.

(c) The Embassy of India at Jeddah provides all necessary assistance to the Haj pilgrims.

805 RSD—1.

SHRI ANSARUDDIN AHMAD: Is it a fact that a large number of berths in the sailing ship are reserved for members of one single community so that the other Hajis cannot take advantage of this ship, the advantage of the ship being that sailings are so arranged from Bombay and Jeddah that the period of detention of the Hajis in Saudi Arabia after completion of their Haj is minimised?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Sir, I could not follow the question, but I might submit that they do not have to come back by the same ship necessarily. Persons coming by the first inward sailing are those who leave by the first outward sailing; the ship may not be the same. For the rest, Sir, I could not follow the question.

SHRI ANSARUDDIN AHMAD: Is it a fact that the Hajis are detained at Jeddah beyond the scheduled dates, because the ship concerned is diverted elsewhere?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: No, Sir.

श्री राम सहाय : क्या मैं यह जान सकूंगा कि समाचारपत्रों में जो यह बात निकली थी कि हाजी लोग काफी पैसा लेकर नहीं जाते हैं इसकी वजह से कैम्प में वहां उनको तकलीफ होती है, उनके बारे में क्या गवर्नमेंट ने कोई विचार किया है ?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Sir, that is not correct. The Hajis get enough foreign exchange, and recently a Parliamentary Team went there; they have also confirmed that they get enough foreign exchange and it is not necessary to increase the same.

श्री राम सहाय : मेरा यह मतलब नहीं था कि फारेन एक्सचेंज की कोई कमी है। वे अपने साथ खुद का जो निजी पैसा लेकर जाते हैं वह कम होता है जिसकी वजह से उनको यह तकलीफ होती है।

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: All this is regulated, Sir, according to requirements.

CONFIRMATION OF 'INDIA OPTES' FROM CENTRALLY ADMINISTERED AREAS

377. SHRI NAWAB SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in confirming Central Government servants who opted for India from Baluchistan, North West Frontier Province, Tribal Areas, various Residencies and Governor-General's Secretariat, as assistants, the Ministry of External Affairs did not follow the normal procedure of seniority-cum-fitness; and if so why;

(b) whether the discrepancies, caused on account of administrative delay in the issue of formal orders on the 3rd February, 1950, regarding the pay and status of the persons from Baluchistan, have been rectified; if not, why not; and

(c) whether the Central Government servants holding supernumerary posts in the clerical cadre from the 15th August, 1947, in the Ministry and officiating as assistants, were not treated on a par for confirmation as assistants in departmental vacancies during the period from the 15th August, 1947 to the end of the year 1953; and if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

श्री नवाबसिंह चौहान : इसके बारे में ज्यादा इन्फार्मेशन कलेक्ट करने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। सन् १९४७ में पार्टीशन के बाद इन्होंने आर्ट किया था और सन् १९५० में इनिशियल कांस्टीट्यूशन का

आर्डर हुआ था और सन् १९५० में ही इनको कन्फर्म कर देना चाहिये था और सीनियरिटी लगा देनी चाहिये थी। लेकिन आश्वासन दिये जाने के बावजूद यह चीज अब तक नहीं की गई, इसका क्या कारण है और इतनी देर क्यों लग रही है ?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Sir, the House is aware that the personnel belonging to the various branches of the previous administrations like Residencies in India, N.W.F.P. and Governor-General's Secretariat had to be absorbed and some of them were immediately absorbed in the External Affairs Ministry and others were absorbed in certain stages. There were questions of seniority, etc., but these could not be regularised due to non-availability of records relating to this period, which were not traceable.

श्री नवाबसिंह चौहान : ३० जुलाई, सन् १९५२ को एक प्रश्न का उत्तर देते हुये लोक सभा में कहा गया था कि -

"Orders were issued in February 1950 for treating permanent employees of Baluchistan, who opted for India, on a par with other permanent Government servants."

And that also with retrospective effect from 1947. तो क्या वजह है कि जब सरकार की तरफ से आश्वासन दिया गया था फिर भी वह मामला आगे तय नहीं हुआ।

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Sir, I have stated in the answer that we are collecting this information and the same will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as it is received.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: May I know how long it will take the Government to regularise these posts?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Sir, there is no question of regularising these posts because they are already