

to state whether it is a fact that Indian nationals going to Sikkim are required to sign a register and furnish certain particulars before crossing the border outpost ?

(b) Is it a fact that recently in some cases intending visitors to Sikkim were required to secure permission in writing from the Political Agent before proceeding to Sikkim? If so, why ?

(c) Was this requirement as to the obtaining of such permission publicly notified for the information of the intending visitors to Sikkim?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. K. CHANDA) : (a) Check-post officials maintain information about Indians and foreigners entering into or leaving Sikkim. Indian nationals are not required to sign any register.

(b) No.

(c) There is no such public notification, but some old notices can still be seen in some places. These state that foreigners cannot cross into certain areas near the frontiers of India without a special permit.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR : Has the Government made any detailed inquiry about this matter ?

SHRI A. K. CHANDA: Tier- is enough information on this matter. Sir.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU : May I just explain it, Sir? Indians are not required to get permit but any Indian would go there and demand accommodation in dak bungalows. That probably is the reason for some misunderstanding—having to fill a particular form. They have taken the old permit form and indicated their requirements for the dak bungalows on it, because there is no other form or paper there. That perhaps causes some misunderstanding. But it is quite clear that Indians do not require any permit to go there.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR : Will the Government do anything to remove this misunderstanding ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Prime Minister's statement will remove the misunderstanding.

#### EXPENDITURE ON PLANNING COMMISSION

•150. SHRI B. C. GHOSE: (a) Will the Minister for PLANNING be pleased to state the number of staff employed in the Planning Commission and the expenditure incurred on the Commission?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR PLANNING & IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI J. S. L. HATHI) : (a) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, Annexure No. 33.]

SHRI B. C. GHOSE : Will the hon. Minister kindly say whether now that the Planning Commission has finished its work, it will be disbanded or continued?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI : The work of the Planning Commission will have to be continued. The Planning Commission will have now to look to the implementation of the Plan.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE : May I know, Sir, if any organisation for the implementation of the Plan will be set up at the Centre which will oversee the work in the States?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI : There will be, Sir, a Committee—liaison officers— at the Centre who will look into the various schemes in the Plan which are being implemented.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE : May I know, Sir, if that Committee will have power sufficient to influence the States and if they go wrong, to rectify them?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI : Generally, Sir, it is also in the interest of the States to see that the programme of

the Plan is being implemented but

I  
this Committee will have sufficient  
power to look into the fact that the  
Plan is being implemented.

PROF. G. BANGA : Are we to  
understand, Sir, that there is going to be a  
committee apart from the Planning Com-  
mission ? We had understood that the  
Planning Commission itself would make  
its special task to see to it that this Plan is  
executed by the States as well as the  
Union Government.

SHRI JAWAFAR LAL NEFRU : The P  
lanning Commission themselves are in  
charge of this work. They may appoint  
committees or sub-committees to help  
them.

PROF. G. P. AKGA : Are any steps  
being taken or any consideration being  
given to the need for having a permanent  
staff—Secretariat at the highest level as well  
as assistants and other people for the  
Planning Commission so that these people,  
who will be employed by the Planning  
Commission, would know that they have  
security of tenure and they would be able  
to specialise themselves in that work?

SHRI JAWAFAR LAL NEFRU : The  
Planning Commission employs a number  
of people who are the permanent em-  
ployees of Government. Some others will  
probably be employed for a period. I could  
not answer the hon. Member straightaway  
how many are of that variety. But there is  
no doubt that they will have to continue  
and they should have that feeling that they  
are going to continue.

PROF. G. RAKGA: Thank you.

#### PRODUCTION OF LENSES

\*151. SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA : Will  
the Minister for COMMERCE AND  
INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the approximate annual requirement of  
spectacles and frames in the country: AOC  
S. D.

(b) the average annual production  
of lenses in the country ;

(c) how many factories are pro-  
ducing such lenses and the production of  
each such factory per year ; and

(d) whether Government propose  
to take any steps to make the country  
self-sufficient in the production of  
lenses and frames?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE  
(SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR) : (a) About one  
million pieces each.

(F) and (c). Since there are a number of  
small manufacturers on a cottage scale it  
is not possible to give the information  
required.

(d) The existing capacity for the  
manufacture of spectacles and of lenses  
from imported blanks is understood to be  
adequate to meet the internal demand. A  
scheme for the establishment of a  
Government plant for the production of  
optical glass for use in the manufacture of  
lenses is under consideration.

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA : May I  
know, Sir, firstly, if there is any special  
licence or registration necessary to start  
manufacturing lenses in this country and  
secondly, is there any law for  
standardising the quality of glasses and  
lenses ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : Sir, so far  
as I can say from the information  
available, I do not think it is incumbent on  
every one of these factories to register  
itself, and, secondly, for standardisation,  
we have not made it compulsory. But  
there is the Indian Standards Institution  
and whoever desires to go there, can do  
so. And it is in their own interests that  
many of them go there. I could not say  
offhand as to what has happened in the  
case of this particular industry.

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA : Since it is  
so optional, is the Government aware that  
large-scale cheating is going on because of  
competition and in the absence of any  
specific law in this matter ?