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LOK SABHA

Tuesday, May 2, 1961/Vaisakha 12,
1883 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Forged Passport Cases in Punjab

*1833. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether prosecutions and trials are now going on in Punjab for forged passports;

(b) if so, the total number of trials and persons under prosecution; and

(c) what steps are being taken to prevent such forging?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) Twenty-two cases involving ninety-one persons, in connection with forgeries in passports, are pending trial in the Punjab.

(c) to obviate the possibility of photographs being replaced on passports, the photographs are embossed and perforated with official stamp. As far as perforation is concerned, some of the Passport Issuing Authorities are following this practice. Action is under way for supplying perforating machines to all Passport Issuing Authorities. A proposal is under study to use eyelet machines for punching eyelets on the corners of photographs on passports. In addition to these measures, strict checking of travel documents has been enforced at the

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points of exit and Special Police staff has been posted in the Punjab.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know whether any new cases have also been registered recently?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: Some cases have come to our notice and action is being taken. Some arrests have been made and the cases are under investigation.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know whether it is a fact that some travel agencies of the Punjab are also involved in these cases, and if so, whether they are still recognised?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: Yes, they are involved in these cases. In fact, some who are responsible for these are standing trial.

Shri Tyagi: Were the persons who have been prosecuted acting as individuals or were they acting together as a group working in a conspiracy?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): In a big organisation like this, there is bound to be group working. It was, no doubt, more like a conspiracy.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या बात है कि पंजाब में ही सारी बातें होती हैं, गोल्ड का स्मगलिंग होता है, वाली पासपोर्ट बनते हैं, सब कुछ होता है, क्या सरकार ने इसका पता लगाया है ?

Shri D. C. Sharma: I take strong exception to the way that this question has been put. This is happening in every State in India.

Shri Tyagi: I protest. It is not happening in Uttar Pradesh.

Shri D. C. Sharma: No, no.

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू : बात यह है कि किसी कदर पंजाब के लोगों में जोश ज्यादा है, खून ज्यादा गर्म है, और इसीलिये वे तरक्की करते हैं, और इसीलिये कभी कभी आपस में लड़ते हैं ।

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो जाली पासपोर्ट बनाये गये उनमें से क्या मचमूच कुछ लोग यात्रा कर चुके हैं ? और यदि हाँ, तो कुछ पता लगा कि कितने ऐसे व्यक्ति हैं जो यात्रा कर चुके हैं ?

श्री सादत अली खाँ : उनमें से बहुत से तो रिपट्रिएट हो गये हैं, वापस चले गये हैं । उनकी तादाद क्या है यह मुझे पता नहीं, लेकिन बहुत से लोग अंडरट्रायल भी हैं ।

[ان میں سے بہت سے تو ریپورٹریٹ ہو گئے ہیں - واپس چلے گئے ہیں - ان کی تعداد کیا ہے یہ مجھے پتہ نہیں - لیکن بہت سے لوگ انڈر ٹرائل بھی ہیں -]

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू : अभी तक इंग्लैंड में काफी तादाद में ऐसे लोग पड़े हैं, और जब जब मैं पिछले दो तीन वर्षों में वहां गया हूँ, वे मेरे पास आये हैं ताकि हम उनको पासपोर्ट दे दें । उन्होंने पासपोर्ट मांगा और अपनी हालत बतलाई । बात ऐसी है कि कुसूर उतना उनका नहीं था जितना उन लोगों का जिन्होंने उनको एक्सप्लायट किया था । अब वे वहां रह कर ऐसी हालत में हो जाते हैं कि वे न इंडियन नेशनल्स हैं न और । स्टेटलेस हो जाते हैं । इस बात पर हम गौर कर रहे हैं और कुछ लोगों को शायद हमारे यहां पासपोर्ट मिले भी ।

Dr. Vijaya Ananda: May I know which other States are involved in this? May I also know the names of those States?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: Recently some arrests were made in Madras. Madras is one of the places. Kerala also is there. I do not have the list of the other places.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Most of these people were stopped from going by the measures we took at the airports. It was really by air that they used to go. Then they made special arrangements to go by ship from Cochin. We were caught napping because we had not thought that they would engage a special ship from Cochin to take them. So hundreds went. It was then that this matter came to a head. They were stopped at Rome, Paris and elsewhere. Some were sent back; some still are there. These trials are as a result of that particular effort.

Shri N. R. Muniswamy: May I know whether the officers who were conniving at this and were abettors in this were also proceeded against?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Naturally, I do not know about any particular officer, but whoever has been found guilty is being proceeded against.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: Are Government aware that a number of travel agencies in Kerala were concerned with this and were actually conniving at this passport racket? If so, has any action been taken against those travel agencies who are recognised by the Government of India?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Action has been taken against some travel agencies. I do not know about the Kerala ones. But as regards those who were here in Delhi and Punjab, action has been taken against them.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know whether these cases are investigated and conducted by the Punjab police or whether separate arrangement has been made under the control of the Central Government?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I could not answer that. But obviously both of them are involved, that is, the Punjab

police and the Central Intelligence and investigation agency. I think they are working in close contact with each other.

Fertilizer Plant at Trombay

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*1834 { Shri Pangarkar:
Shri Koratkar:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the up-to-date progress so far made in setting up the fertilizer plant at Trombay?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix VI annexure No. 45].

Shri Pangarkar: In reply to a starred question, it was stated that the US Government had offered \$28.00 million to meet the rupee expenditure of the factory. May I know whether any amount has been given so far from that?

Shri Satish Chandra: Yes, a loan of \$30.00 million dollars has been promised....

Shri Pangarkar: Under PL 480....

Mr. Speaker: What is the meaning of talking to each other like that? The hon. Member will speak louder.

Shri Pangarkar: In reply to a reply to a previous question, it was stated that \$28.00 million were offered by the US Government. May I know whether any amount has been given so far by the US Government?

Mr. Speaker: Has any amount been received?

Shri Satish Chandra: I am saying that the US Development Loan Fund has promised us a loan of \$30.00 million. It will be drawn as and when payments are made to the foreign contractors for the supply of plant and machinery. The Indian expenditure will be met from the counterpart funds accumulated in India under PL 480. That money will be drawn as and when the necessity arises.

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह जो ३ करोड़ रुपया का ऋण अमरीका से मिला है, उस के अलावा भारत सरकार क्या खर्च करेगी, और जो ८२५ एकड़ जमीन हासिल की गई है उसके ऊपर सरकार को क्या व्यय पड़ा है ?

श्री सतीश चन्द्र : सभी खर्च सरकार करेगी । यह ऋण मिलेगा जो अदा करना होगा मय सूद के ।

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : मैंने यह पूछा कि कुल कितनी लागत इस में लगेगी, अलावा अमरीका के रुपये के जो कि मिला है । और साइट खरीदने पर कितना रुपया खर्च किया गया ?

श्री सतीश चन्द्र : अन्दाज है कि इस प्रोजेक्ट में कुल २५ करोड़ ६० लगेगा, जिसमें फोरन एक्स्चेंज का खर्च करीब ११ करोड़ ६० होगा । अमरीका से ऋण के रूप में जो सहायता मिली है वह कुल इस प्रोजेक्ट के लिये खर्च होगी और वह काफी होगी । लेकिन वह सब रुपया गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया का होगा और ऋण के रूप में मिलेगा ।

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : साइट पर बिता खर्च होगा ?

श्री सतीश चन्द्र : साइट का खर्च अभी नहीं मालूम हुआ क्योंकि अभी पूरा ऐक्विजिशन नहीं हुआ है । ८२५ एकड़ में से ५०० एकड़ जमीन मिली है, कुछबर्बर्ड गवर्नमेंट की है जिसके लिये उन्होंने कहा है कि हम इस्तेमाल कर सकते हैं, लेकिन वाम अभी तय नहीं हुए हैं । काम जारी हो गया है ।

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know what is the amount that will be paid to the Burmah-Shell refineries for taking their refinery gas?

Shri Satish Chandra: Payment to the Burmah-Shell for refinery gas will be made on the basis of the calorific value and will be equivalent to the calorific value or the heat con-