

(c) the manner in which Government propose to regulate the outflow of Indian workers to the above countries and save the needy workers from exploitation?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-  
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI  
RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) to (c).  
290 firms as on 24-11-1977 have so far  
been registered as recruiting agents for  
overseas employment. Government  
have also received reports that  
besides these authorised agents, a  
number of individuals and agencies  
are functioning as unauthorised re-  
cruiting agents.

There are reports that, in some  
cases, the unauthorised agent or his  
representative abandons the recruits  
in foreign countries. Though some of  
them may manage to find employment,  
they are likely to be underpaid, as  
they do not have the protection of  
written contracts and are at the mercy  
of the employers, since their entry into  
foreign countries might be illegal and  
the stay not regularised. Some of  
those who enter the foreign country  
with written contracts, but do not  
complete emigration formalities under  
the Emigration Act, 1922 are also  
likely to be exploited by the foreign  
employers.

The workers are given protection  
under the procedures prescribed for  
the registration of the recruiting  
agencies. Government also carry out  
checks at the points of exit to en-  
sure that illegal emigrants are not  
permitted to go until they have com-  
pleted the necessary formalities re-  
quired under the Emigration Act,  
1922.

**Payment of Wages to Workers of  
Devi Dayal Tube, Bombay**

2300. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:  
Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-  
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether the 600 workers of  
Devi Dayal Tube, Bombay did not get

their earned wages and other legiti-  
mate dues although the company went  
into liquidation eight years ago; and

(b) whether the company did not  
survive because it took to serious  
malpractice?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-  
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR  
(SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a)  
and (b). Information is being col-  
lected and will be laid on the Table  
of the Lok Sabha when received.

**Inquiry set up to Inquire into the  
Chasnala Accident**

2301. SHRIMATI PARVATHI  
KRISHNAN:  
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN  
TIWARI:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-  
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have ac-  
cepted the findings of Sinha Commis-  
sion set up to inquire into Chasnala  
accident;

(b) if so, what action has been taken  
against the officials held responsible  
and

(c) whether an attempt is being  
made to implicate the Director General  
of Mines' Safety who is said to have  
been absolved of any responsibility  
by the Court of Inquiry only to com-  
plicate and delay the acceptance and  
publication of the findings?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-  
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR  
(SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a)  
to (c). The question of the kind of  
follow up action to be taken on the  
findings of the Courts of Inquiry into  
the two accidents at Chasnala Colliery  
on the 27th December, 1975 and  
5th April, 1976 is under the exami-  
nation of Government. The leaders  
of the various opposition groups in  
the Lok Sabha have been requested  
on 27-9-1977 to nominate a person  
from each group for going through

the reports and advising the Government on the action that should be taken. As soon as nominations are received from all the groups further necessary action will be taken.

Meanwhile the reports have been sent to the Government of India Press for publication in the official Gazette. The reports were placed on the Table of the House on 23rd June, 1977. It is a fact that the Court of Inquiry has absolved the Directorate General of Mines Safety of responsibility for the accident. Government is not aware of any attempts to impute any officer of the Directorate.

The Ministry is examining the action that it has to take on the findings of the Court of Inquiry.

#### Purchase of Engineering goods from Abroad

2302. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of purchase of engineering goods made from abroad for the Ministry of Steel & Mines, Fertilizer Corporation of India and ONGC etc.;

(b) for how many such purchases, enquiries were sent to Richardson and Crudas, a public undertaking; and

(c) an outline thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

12 hrs.

#### RE. QUESTIONS AND CALLING ATTENTION NOTICES

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise on a point of order. The Question Hour has been declared as closed. For the Question Hour today my Starred Question No. 236 was listed. Un-

fortunately it could not be reached because the time was over. I have no complaint about that at all.

My Starred Question No. 236 was addressed to the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Now, like yesterday I am sorry to tell you again, the same thing has happened, but in a different form. Regarding this Question 236, about increase in the number of passport applications, I sent the original question on 2nd November, 1977. I drafted the question and put it into (a), (b) (c), (d) and (e). But the Lok Sabha Secretariat has only admitted (a) and (b) of the question and left out (c), (d) and (e) completely, arbitrarily, without telling me under what rules they have eliminated those parts. I will read out what I had sent. After asking for information, State-wise, as to how many more applications for passport have been received after the new liberalised rules came into force from August 15, 1977. I had asked in:

"(c) whether it is true that several persons of suspected or real undesirable and even criminal character managed to get the passports and have already gone abroad;

(d) if so, full details thereof;

(e) steps being taken to enforce stricter watch and control in this regard."

If you see the question in my name now, you will find that (c), (d) and (e) are eliminated and only (a) and (b) are retained. (a) and (b) could have gone as written answer. My point is this. I gave priority number one to my question. If I wanted merely factual information from Mr. Vajpayee as to how many fresh applications had been received after the new liberalised rules came into force, I could have put that in the category of 'Unstarred' and not in the category of 'Starred'. Having put that for balloting under 'Starred' and having got the ballot, No. 236, I find that the