

various steps for improving the situation by expansion of both printing capacity and distribution facilities are being taken.

Shri Baasal: Is it not a fact that some of the Gazettes which carry the Bills which are presented in this House reach the public after they have been enacted here?

Sardar Swaran Singh: That, I think, is too wild an allegation. I cannot accept it.

Shri K. K. Basu: Is the hon. Minister aware that Gazettes Extraordinary are not always available in the sales organisation even in Calcutta?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I could not say, unless any specific case is made out. I thought that arrangements for distribution in Calcutta were quite up to the mark.

Sardar Hukam Singh: When there are delays but there are no complaints do the Government wait for the complaints to reach them.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Next question.

GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS

*262. **Shri Baasal:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formed private limited companies for the Sindri Fertilizer Factory and the Hindustan Shipyard;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to form private limited companies for other industries under the charge of the Ministry of Production; and

(c) whether the annual balance sheets and the report of these companies will be placed before Parliament for consideration?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Yes. The private limited company to run the Visakhapatnam Ship-building Yard, called the Hindustan Shipyard Limited has been formed by Government in collaboration with the Scindia Steam Navigation Company, which holds one-third of the shares.

(b) I would, in this connection, invite the attention of the hon. Member to the reply given in the Parliament of India on the 26th April, 1951, to Starred Question No. 3508 put by Dr. Ram Subhag Singh. It is only necessary to add that since then private limited companies have actually been formed

to manage, in addition to the two industries mentioned above in reply to part (a), the Dry Core Cable Factory at Rupnarainpur and the Nahan Foundry at Nahan, and it is proposed to form a private limited company shortly to run the Government Housing Factory at Jungpura, Delhi.

(c) The question of the manner in which Parliamentary control over the working of state-owned undertakings should be exercised is still under consideration.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is the Minister aware that the Estimates Committee made certain recommendations about the control to be exercised by Parliament in regard to these Government factories? If so, has Government come to any decision?

Shri K. C. Reddy: Yes, Sir, I am aware of the recommendations of the Estimates Committee. As I have already said in reply to part (c) of the question, the whole matter is under the consideration of Government.

Shri Velayndhan: May I know, Sir, whether the managing agency of these limited companies will be with the Government or with private agencies?

Shri K. C. Reddy: There are no Managing Agents, Sir.

VISA SYSTEM

*263. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government of Pakistan have refused to cooperate with the Government of India in the matter of liberalising the system of visa?

(b) If so, what are the details of the suggestion made by the Government of India and the reactions of the Government of Pakistan thereon?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) The proposal to introduce the passport system between Pakistan and India was made by the Government of Pakistan. The Government of India were not in favour of it and did not wish to impose any restrictions on travel between East Pakistan and India. On Pakistan's insistence, however, the matter was discussed at considerable length by the representatives of the two Governments. These discussions were carried out with a view to facilitate travel and minimise hardship. Both Governments approached the question from this point of view and the decisions taken were

agreed decisions. As a result of these decisions travel between East Pakistan and India has been made fairly easy. Although some suggestions of the Government of India were not accepted by the Government of Pakistan, there was no lack of co-operation between the representatives of the two Governments in drawing up the rules and regulations governing the issue of passports and visas.

(b) The discussions to work out the details were prolonged. Finally, there were three proposals of the Government of India which were not accepted by the Pakistan Government. These were as follows:—

- (1) India should open branch Visa Offices at certain places in Pakistan apart from Karachi, Lahore and Dacca and, Pakistan should similarly open branch Visa Offices at certain places apart from Delhi, Jullundur and Calcutta.
- (2) Inclusion in the list of authorised routes between East Pakistan and India of certain additional routes; particularly on lines of communications between the hill districts in Assam, where internal communications are deficient.
- (3) That apart from initial registration at the check-post of entry, subsequent reports of arrival and departure to the police should be dispensed with.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know, Sir, whether the visa system between India and Pakistan is to operate on the same lines as those which operate between other foreign countries?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: Yes, certainly.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know, Sir if the rules and procedure regulating the issue of visas are the same for India and for Pakistan, or is there any difference between the two systems?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: No, the rules are the same.

Shri N. C. Chatterjee: After the introduction of the passport and visa system, in view of the practical stoppage of movement of the Hindu minority from Pakistan to India, has our Government made any representation to the Pakistan Government impressing upon them the desirability of revoking or rescinding the passport and visa system?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): No, Sir. As a matter of fact, first of all, it is too soon to judge this matter. Secondly, there is no difficulty at the moment, so far as I know. There may be individual cases which can be inquired into. But the rules and regulations are so liberal; at any rate I have not heard thus far of any instance of any major complaint in regard to the application of this system. In any event, to ask for the revocation of the system at this stage after all that had taken place and when we have made arrangements for people to come either as migrants or as visitors with relative ease, does not seem to be necessary.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: Are the Government aware that the Indian nationals who have three or four sugar factories in East Pakistan are finding it difficult—impossible—to take labour from India because the Pakistan Deputy High Commissioner's office is not able to cope with the number of visas that are required?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Not able to cope with them? Maybe; it is possible.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is the Government aware that there has been quite a big rush of applications for visas and people have been waiting for weeks for getting the necessary visas and permits from both sides?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I think there is some truth in what the hon. member has said. I could not exactly say; obviously it takes a little time to adjust to the conditions and deal with the visas. I believe, so far as we are concerned, we are expediting them.

Pandit L. K. Maitra: rose—

Mr. Speaker: The question hour is over.

Short Notice Question And Answer

Shri K. P. Tripathi: (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether steamers passing through Pakistan from Assam to Calcutta or vice versa are held up due to continuance of mariners' strike which was long called off by the Union in Calcutta?

(b) If so, what is the cause of this continuance of the strike?

(c) How many steamers are involved and what are the commodities so held up?