

**The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):**

(a) and (b). No. Sir.

**Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** May I know whether the Government is aware that in many cases, the S.T.C. charges a certain percentage of commission for giving their name and the rest of the work is done by different parties? I want to know whether the Government will see that this practice is stopped.

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** Arising out of the main question, perhaps this would not arise. But, I may inform the hon. Member that it is a common practice to have commission agency when the whole function of the S.T.C. is to canalise imports and to boost up exports of such items which are difficult to sell.

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question. There is nothing in this.

#### Indians Interned in Portuguese Colonies

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\*13. { **Shrimati Maimoona Sultan:**  
**Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:**  
**Shri Shree Narayan Das:**  
**Shri S. M. Banerjee:**  
**Shri B. C. Seth:**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) what are the latest developments with regard to the question of Indian internees in Portugal and its enclaves; and

(b) how long it is expected to take to secure their emancipation?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):** (a). The Government of India have repeatedly urged that the Portuguese authorities should release Indian nationals interned by them in their colonies. Initially the Government of Portugal linked the question of repatriation of Portuguese personnel from India with the departure of Indian nationals from their colonies. The Government of Portu-

gal have since agreed not to link these issues but have stated that the Indian nationals will have to leave Portuguese colonies on the expiry of their visas. They have, at the same time, agreed that the people who leave Portuguese colonies will be allowed to take their assets and belongings with them.

(b) The Portuguese Government have not indicated any definite date for the release of Indian nationals. It is hoped, however, that this will take place by the end of this month or the beginning of next month.

**Shrimati Maimoona Sultan:** May I know whether the Government of India has agreed that the situation of the Indian subjects interned in Portuguese territories is a question of exclusive competence of the Portuguese Government? That means that the Indian subjects could be treated as foreigners in those Portuguese territories. May I know whether this attitude of the Government of India is in conformity with any international law or usage?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** I have not been able to follow the latter part of the question. May I ask the hon. Member to repeat the question?

**Mr. Speaker:** The same was my fate. I also could not follow the question. Would the hon. Member kindly repeat the question and a little more slowly?

**Shrimati Maimoona Sultan:** May I know whether the Government of India has agreed—it has come in the newspapers also—that the situation of the Indian subjects interned in the Portuguese territories, for instance in Mozambique and other places, is a question of exclusive competence of the Portuguese Government? That means that the Indian subjects could be treated as foreigners in those Portuguese territories. May I know whether this attitude of the Government of India, that is, the recognition of the fact that these Indian subjects could be treated as foreigners, is in conformity with any international law or usage?

**Mr. Speaker:** The question certainly has been put to such a length that when one reaches to the end, he forgets the first part.

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** Most of the Indians living in Portuguese possessions must have Indian passports. Or, if they have other passports,—Portuguese passports—then, they come under the recent proclamation or order by which all Goans holding Portuguese passports can surrender them and get Indian passports and be recognised as Indian citizens.

**Shrimati Malmoona Sultan:** Indian subjects cannot be treated as enemy aliens of that country because we have never been at war with the Portuguese Government. The Portuguese Government has taken this attitude that Indian subjects could be treated as foreigners and the Government of India has agreed to that. I want to know how the Government of India has come to this conclusion.

12 hrs.

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** I have already stated that those who have Indian passports will be aliens, as far as the Portuguese Government are concerned, and they will stay there as long as their visas permit them to stay. Those Goans who have Portuguese passports can surrender those passports and get Indian passports if they so desire.

**Mr. Speaker:** We have covered only a few questions today. Now, the Question Hour is over.

**Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:** Since about five minutes were taken up in oath-taking, could you kindly extend the Question Hour by five minutes?

**Mr. Speaker:** I cannot do that. That is also part of the Question Hour.

## Short Notice Question and Answer Goans in Pakistan

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S.N.Q. 1. { **Shri Raghunath Singh:**  
**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:**

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to new regulations about 20,000 Goans in Pakistan are facing a serious problem as to whether they should enter India or become citizens of Pakistan; and

(b) what is the policy of Government regarding these Goans who are either employed with Pakistan Government or are in private service in that country?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):** (a) The Government of India have no information regarding the number of people residing in Pakistan who are of Goan origin. A notification has been issued on the 28th of March, 1962, extending the Indian Citizenship Act, 1955, to the Union Territory of Goa, Daman and Diu. In accordance with this notification, every person who was born before the 20th of December 1961 (or either of whose parents or any of whose grand-parents was born before that date) in this Union Territory, shall be deemed to have become a citizen of India on that day. At the same time provision has been made that any person who makes a declaration in writing to the Administration of Goa, Daman and Diu that he chooses the citizenship or nationality which he had immediately before the 20th day of December, 1961, he would continue to retain such foreign citizenship. Any persons of Goan origin who are residing in Pakistan, therefore, are entitled either to retain their foreign nationality or obtain Indian nationality. The Indian High Commission in Karachi has been instructed to issue Indian passports to such persons in lieu of Portuguese passports if they apply for them.