

5

**STANDING COMMITTEE
ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(1995-96)**

TENTH LOK SABHA

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

**[ACTION TAKEN ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS
CONTAINED IN THE 2ND REPORT OF THE
COMMITTEE ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS
OF MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
FOR 1994-95]**

FIFTH REPORT



सत्यमेव जयते

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

April, 1995 / Chaitra, 1917 (Saka)

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(1995-96)

(TENTH LOK SABHA)

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CONTAINED IN THE 2ND REPORT OF THE
COMMITTEE ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS OF
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Presented to Lok Sabha on 28 April, 1995

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 27 April, 1995

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

April, 1995 / Chaitra, 1917 (Saka)

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COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (1995-96)

CHAIRMAN

Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee

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3. Shri Venkata Krishna Reddy Kasu
4. Shri V. Sreenivasa Prasad
5. Shri Anwari Basavaraj Patil
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26. Smt. Geeta Mukherjee
27. Shri R. Naidu Ramasamy
28. Shri Ebrahim Sulaiman Sait
29. Shri Chandra Shekhar
30. Shri Arjun Singh

(iv)

Rajya Sabha

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34. Shri Mohammad Yunus
35. Shri G. Swaminathan
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41. Shri Inder Kumar Gujral
42. Shri Triloki Nath Chaturvedi
43. Smt. Vyjayantimala Bali

Secretariat

1. Dr. Ashok Kumar Pandey - *Additional Secretary*
2. Shri G.R. Patwardhan - *Joint Secretary*
3. Shri O.P. Ghai - *Deputy Secretary*
4. Shri Ashok Sarin - *Under Secretary*

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Standing Committee on External Affairs (1995-96) having been authorised by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Fifth Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Second Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of External Affairs for 1994-95.

2. The Second Report was presented to Lok Sabha on 26th April, 1994 and was also laid in Rajya Sabha the same day. The Government furnished their replies indicating Action Taken on the Recommendations contained in the Report.

3. Draft Report on the basis of Action Taken Notes was considered and adopted by the Standing Committee on External Affairs (1995-96) at their sitting held on 17th April, 1995. Minutes of the sitting of the Committee have been reproduced as Appendix I to the Report.

4. An Analysis of Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations contained in the Second Report of Standing Committee on External Affairs (Tenth Lok Sabha) is given in Appendix II.

5. For facility of reference and convenience, the observations and recommendations of the Committee have been printed in thick type in the body of the Report.

NEW DELHI;
17 April, 1995

27 Chaitra , 1917 (Saka)

ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE,
Chairman,
Standing Committee on External Affairs.

REPORT

CHAPTER I

The Report of the Committee deals with the action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the 2nd Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on External Affairs on Demands for Grants of Ministry of External Affairs for 1994-95, which was presented to Lok Sabha on 26th April, 1994.

2. Action Taken Notes have been received from the Ministry of External Affairs in respect of all the 24 observations/recommendations contained in Report. These have been categorised as follows :

3. (i) Observations/Recommendations that have been accepted by the Government.

Para Nos. 9, 11, 21, 27, 28, 29, 32, 37, 38, 46, 48, 49, 58, 59, 60, 70, 71, 72.

- (ii) Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies.

Para Nos. 13, 14, 20 and 73.

- (iii) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted.

Para Nos. 36 and 61.

- (iv) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which final replies of Government are still awaited.

Nil

4. The Committee will now deal with the action taken by the Government on some of their observations/recommendations.

Passport and Emigration

(Para 36)

5. In para 36 of their 2nd Report on Demands for Grants (1994-95), the Committee had observed that there was substantial increase to the tune of Rs. 18.90 crores in the RE 1993-94 over BE 1993-94 and the BE 1994-95 also

exceeded the RE 1993-94 by about Rs. 4.00 crores. This increase, perhaps, had been agreed to by the Ministry of Finance taking into consideration the substantial increase in revenue from Passport and Visa fees. The break-up of the increase revealed that large funds were being used for increased demand for booklets, computerisation, postal charges, office expenditure etc. The Committee had expressed the hope that large expenditure incurred in 1993-94 and to be incurred in 1994-95 from this increased allocation would be utilised for augmenting and improving the facilities e.g. by opening new Offices. The Committee had also desired that computerisation of the Passport Offices should be expeditiously achieved.

6. The Ministry of External Affairs in their reply have *inter alia* stated that the Government will consider expanding the network of passport offices, where location would depend on a number of parameters including, in particular, the estimated workload. It has been Government's experience that merely opening of new offices does not necessarily improve the quality of service unless the necessary infrastructure and personnel are provided. Indeed, strengthening the existing offices which are not fully equipped to handle the current demand for passport services may, perhaps, yield better results than opening new ones. Effort is presently focussed on ensuring that applications are expeditiously processed so that delays in issuing passports are reduced to the minimum. Simultaneously, upgrading of premises, equipment and facilities for the public and the staff at all Passport offices is being undertaken.

7. As for computerisation the Ministry have stated that the passport offices at Delhi, Bangalore and Bombay, as also the Central Passport Organisation, have been computerized. Work has begun on Passport Offices at Cochin and Kozhikode. Estimates for Hyderabad and Madras are being processed. Estimates have been sought for computerisation of Passport Offices at Trichy, Trivandrum, Calcutta, Barcilly, Bhopal, Lucknow, Patna, Jaipur, Ahmedabad, Chandigarh and Jalandhar.

8. The Committee have taken note of the contention of the Ministry that merely opening of new offices does not necessarily improve the quality of service unless the necessary infrastructure and personnel are provided. The Committee cannot but over emphasise the need for providing all the amenities and facilities in the existing offices. At the same time they feel that at present juncture opening of new passport offices is also desirable which would go a long way in reducing the workload of the existing overloaded passport offices and would also to alleviate the problems of those people who travel long distances in connection with availing of passport facilities. It is pertinent to note in this connection that the Committee had recommended in their 3rd Report (Para 86) on 'Passport

Facilities' that keeping in view the wide variation in the workload of different Regional Passport Offices, as well as the variations within their respective areas of jurisdiction, passport demand maps be prepared to serve as the basis for determining the number and location of passport offices and local Extension Counters around the country. The Committee therefore, feel that Ministry ought to pay adequate attention towards strengthening of the existing passport offices as well as for opening of new ones. The Ministry should therefore earnestly endeavour to take suitable steps in this direction.

They also recommend that the ongoing computerisation of the passport offices may be positively completed during this year *i.e.* 1995-96 as considerable delay has taken place in this regard already.

Subsidy on Haj Travel

(Para 61)

9. In para 61 of their 2nd Report on Demands for Grants (1994-95), the Committee had expressed their concern over the rise in the expenditure on the Haj Goodwill Delegation to Saudi Arabia for which a provision of about Rs. 1 crore has been made in the Budget Estimate (BE) 1994-95. The Committee were not convinced that such delegations serve any useful purpose during the Haj when no effective discussions far less negotiations with the Saudi Arabian authorities on Haj matters are possible. The Committee had, therefore, recommended that the size of the delegation should be reduced to a token representation of the Government of India if considered necessary and the saving so effected should be utilised to the extent necessary for upgrading welfare activities for the pilgrims.

10. The Ministry of External Affairs in their reply have observed that the Haj Goodwill Delegation comprises representatives not only from the Government of India but also from the State Governments and prominent members of the Muslim Community from all walks of life. Its essential purpose is not merely that of official interaction with the Saudi Government which is in any case done on a continuous basis by our Mission in Saudi Arabia. Its purpose is rather to emphasize to the Saudi authorities the importance which the Government of India attaches to the welfare of Indian pilgrims during the Haj. The delegation interacts with Saudi authorities at different levels as well as with other foreign delegations, reviews the arrangements made and submits an independent report to the Government of India, which includes recommendations for further improvement of the Haj administration and facilities. Its activities and report are an essential and useful supplement to the reports made by the Consulate General of India, Jeddah and the Central

and State Haj Committees. The Government of India do not consider the Haj to be merely an official or administrative exercise and feel that it is important to associate and obtain inputs and suggestions for improvement, from various other sources.

11. In view of the above, the Ministry have stated that they would find it difficult to comply with the observation that the Haj Goodwill Delegation should be reduced to a token representation of the Government of India.

12. The Committee regret to observe that the Ministry have expressed their inability to comply with the recommendation to reduce the size of the Haj Goodwill Delegation despite the gradual rise in the expenditure and without providing any concrete instance of improvement having been affected in the Haj arrangements and the basis of the recommendation of the Delegation. The tasks listed by the Ministry for this Delegation such as to emphasis to the Saudi Arabian Authorities the importance attached by the Government of India to Haj Pilgrimage and to the welfare of the pilgrims, interaction with Saudi dignitaries and other foreign delegations, and review of the Haj arrangements and submission of an independent report to the Government of India, are important. But this do not justify the large size of the Delegation. In fact Goodwill Delegations which were introduced in late 60s initially consisted of a handful of members and only in recent years the size has grown to its present dimensions of 20 to 25 members.

The interaction of the Goodwill Delegation with the Saudi Arabian Haj authorities and even with the pilgrims is in a way a duplication of the continuous efforts made throughout the year by the Indian Ambassador, Consulate General in Jeddah and the Haj Committee. The Ministry have not stated any reason as to why the reports provided by the Missions and the Haj Committee as well as in the media or by the Hajis themselves need to be supplemented by the report of the Goodwill Delegation.

The Committee feel that the Haj Committee which is a statutory body and the Consulate General in Jeddah which, has a permanent Haj Section, should be asked to design a system of inviting comments and suggestions from the Haj pilgrims themselves in the light of their actual experience and specially charged Group Leaders (The Amir-ul-Haj and Khadim-ul-Haj) and for refining the system in general.

The Committee find it obvious that during the Haj period specially when the number of pilgrims has reached its peak just before and after the Haj, neither the Delegation nor the Saudi Arabian Authorities can effectively interact with each other. It is interesting to note that the stay

(except during the brief sojourn in Mina) of the Delegation in Saudi Arabia generally coincides with the peak period. Consequently during the Haj period, the Mission Staff and the additional Administrative Staff deputed for the Haj are not in a position to devote all their time and energy to attend to the convenience of the pilgrims because the available resources are diverted to look after the VIPs included in the Delegation whose members are sometime accompanied by their families and personal staff.

The Committee, therefore, reiterate their view that the Delegation should be as small as possible and consist of persons of national eminence chosen by rotation from various parts of the country and associate some other eminent pilgrims, if necessary for ceremonial purposes. Its objectives and tasks should be clearly defined and the criteria for accommodation, transport and other facilities should be strictly applied. The Committee also feel that no one except the leader of the Delegation should be permitted to take along any member of his family or personal staff so that the members of the Delegation can devote themselves to their assigned task without any distraction.

CHAPTER II

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Recommendation of the Committee

The Committee note that the Revised Estimates for 1993-94 works out to Rs. 903.00 crs. against the Budget Estimates for Rs. 748.83 crs. thus reflecting an increase of Rs. 155.17 crs. The Ministry have stated that inspite of stringent austerity measures taken, it has not been possible to contain the expenditure within the BE 1993-94. The Committee cannot but express concern over this trend of excess in expenditure for which the Parliament is later presented with a *fait accompli*. The increase in expenditure (like Rs. 71 crs. due to depreciation of Rupee value) which was unforeseen, is of course unavoidable. Yet the total increase to the tune of more than Rs. 155 crs. notwithstanding the saving of Rs. 21 crs. because of non-utilisation of the provision for release of foreign exchange to Haj pilgrims at official rate of exchange, calls for monetary control. Evidently, the whole system of preparation of Budget needs to be improved. It should be more realistic and ensured that the variations between the estimates and actuals are minimised. (Para No. 9).

Government's reply

It is the constant endeavour of the Ministry to refine and improve the system for the preparation of the Budget. Certainly, it is accepted that actual expenditure during a year should be as close as possible to the Budget estimates for the budgetary exercise to be meaningful. However, three points need to be mentioned in this context. *First*, that under the existing principles of Budget preparation only expenditure that can be foreseen and quantified are budgetable even though it is recognised that certain expenditure not foreseen would inevitably need to be incurred during the year. *Second*, that the overall resource constraint compels the Ministry of Finance to limit outlays at the time of Budget preparation under certain heads to levels which emerging developments frequently render unrealistic. *Third*, post-budgetary developments often leave the Government with no option but to augment allocations and prepare Revised Estimates in order to address such inevitable extra expenditure and resources to meet emerging situations.

In the case of the Ministry of External Affairs, the effect of post-budgetary developments is particularly pronounced. International developments often

necessitate incurring of expenditure beyond what could have been foreseen at the Budget preparation stage, on items such as additional travel, including to counter Pakistani inspired propaganda in countries of concurrent accreditation, Conference arrangements, hospitality for visiting dignitaries, increasing assessed contributions to International Organisations (particularly to the UN for peace keeping operations), and disaster relief provided to countries afflicted by natural calamities (which obviously cannot be accurately estimated in advance). There are also unforeseeable expenditure, often rather large, on evacuation of Indians from countries following the outbreak of local conflict or civil war as in the case of Yemen earlier this year. The expenditure on enhanced security for Embassy personnel in crisis situations or in a hostile environment, and on the evacuation of such personnel where necessary, represent yet another expenditure that cannot be accurately foreseen.

Variations in the exchange rate of the Rupee *vis-a-vis* the currency of expenditure and the impact of the inflationary trend around the world places additional pressure on the limited budgetary allocations of the Ministry.

Notwithstanding the above factors, Ministry constantly monitors the flow of expenditure and keeps a tight rein on it in order to ensure that, as far as possible, it remains within the budgetary allocations. However, where unavoidable expenditure in excess of the budgetary allocation is required to be made during the year, the Ministry, with the concurrence of the Ministry of Finance, is obliged to revise the Budget estimates.

[Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) Letter No. Q/Bud./734/2/94
dt. 28.7.1994]

Recommendation of the Committee

The Committee expect the Ministry of External Affairs to take up the matter with the Ministry of Finance at the earliest with a view to ensuring that the Budget structure from the next year is rational in terms of a mere scientific and rational classification and sub-classification. This would facilitate the grouping of expenditure on similar items and depiction of the total thereof at one place in the Budget proposals. This in turn will help the Parliament to know the entire expenditure in one particular field at one place and monitor its rise or fall. The Committee hope that the Ministry of Finance would appreciate the necessity of such an exercise and cooperate with the Ministry of External Affairs in this regard. (Para No. 11)

Government's reply

MEA, as stated in the Standing Committee accepts the logic of the Standing Committee's Recommendations. In the light of the recommendation of the

Standing Committee, several rounds of discussions have been held between this Ministry and the Ministry of Finance and with the Comptroller General of Accounts. The views of the Committee regarding the need for rationalisation and grouping of similar expenditure have been appreciated. Ministry of Finance have conveyed their concurrence, within the parameters of their basic norm, to a revised Budget format for the Ministry of External Affairs which would largely be in conformity with the recommendations of the Committee. The Ministry would, therefore, use the revised format for the Demands for Grants for the year 1995-96. (A copy of the revised format is enclosed.)

[MEA Letter No. Q/Bud/734/2/94, dt. 28.7.1994.]

Recommendation of the Committee

Another pertinent point to be noted in the expenditure incurred on travel under both the heads pertaining to Headquarters and Missions/Posts abroad is that a major portion thereof was accounted for by the transfers of officials. The Committee feel that the Ministry may review its transfer policies in order to minimise the expenditure on transfers and home leave passages. (Para No. 21)

Government's reply

A normal term of posting at a Mission/Post abroad is 3 years except in 32 stations which are categorised as C* stations. As living conditions at those stations are difficult the normal term is 2 years.

Acting in pursuance of the comments of the Committee, a proposal is being moved before the concerned authorities in the Ministry to enhance the term in all Missions and posts (except for a few in which the living conditions are notably difficult) to 3 years. This will result in substantial savings in the travel Budget.

[MEA Letter No. Q/Bud./734/2/94 dt. 28.7.1994]

Recommendation of the Committee

The Committee are constrained to observe that despite a specific recommendation made by them in their 1st Report on Demands for Grants of the Ministry for 1993-94 to enhance the outlay on publicity, there has been only marginal increase (Rs. 1.56 crores) in allocation in the BE 94-95 for this purpose, at Headquarters and virtually no increase for this expenditure by

Missions/Posts abroad particularly when there is imperative need for both positive publicity and counter publicity using modern technology and infrastructure. The Committee feel that the publicity work to be carried out at Headquarters and through Missions abroad cannot be under-estimated for which more funds have to be provided. The Committee hope that necessary increase in the allocation in this regard would be provided at RE stage. They would also like the Ministry to ensure that the functional expenses of the Information Section or wing of the Missions/Posts are shown separately in Demands for Grants and are not clubbed with office expenses of the Missions/Posts abroad so as to depict the totality of expenditure being incurred for publicity work. (Para No. 27)

Government's reply

In the next Budget preparation, discussions with the Ministry of Finance, the need for increased funding of our publicity effort will be emphasized. If Ministry of Finance concur, additional allocation would be made available for publicity at the RE stage, so that a larger allocation is available during the current financial year itself.

It needs to be mentioned, however, that in keeping with Government's accounting procedure, only non-personnel related expenditure is booked under publicity expenses. Thus, expenditure on pay & allowances of personnel directly charged with publicity work, as also expenditure on accommodation, travel etc. are booked separately. Strictly speaking, such expenses should also constitute an integral part of publicity expenditure. If all these expenditures were included, the "publicity expenses" figure would be several times the one shown in the Demands for Grants. The latter, for the most part, includes only expenditure on publicity material and incidentals.

Regarding the recommendation to show publicity expenditure in Missions separately from office Expenses, this Ministry had taken up the matter with the Ministry of Finance who have agreed to our proposal. Accordingly, in the 1995-96 Demands for Grants of this Ministry, there would be a separate "Publicity Expenses" head under Embassies and Missions.

It is relevant to note in this context that in 1993 Government set up a Special Publicity unit separately for countering hostile propaganda. The funding of the unit is not included as part of the Publicity Expenses under "Secretariat" or under "Embassies and Missions", but covered separately.

[MEA Letter No. Q/Bud./734/2/94 dt. 28.7.1994]

Recommendation of the Committee

The Committee stress the need for maximizing publicity effort through our Missions/Posts. In this respect, the Committee consider that the total number of information officers (32 in 141 Missions/Posts) is definitely very low. The Committee recommend that the Ministry should consciously categorise Missions/Posts into Missions in which the Head of Missions/Posts (HOM/P) or the Political Officer is in charge of publicity work; Missions in which the HOM/P or the Political Officer is assisted by an Attache Information; Missions/Posts in which a First/Second Secretary Information Section heads the Information Section; Missions in which the Head of the Information Section is assisted by an Attache (Information) and Missions in which there is need for a Minister/Counsellor (Information), if necessary assisted by a First/Second Secretary and/or Attache (Information). The Committee are of the view that reinforcement of publicity effort does not mean only the upgradation of the post of the Head of Information Wing. The Committee therefore suggest that the Ministry should urgently determine the staff requirement of each Mission/Post for this purpose and review it every three years.

The Committee also find that the posts of head of Publicity Division in some important stations have been upgraded. The equivalent posts in other important missions like Bonn, Tehran, Jakarta, Singapore, Tokyo and Islamabad have not been upgraded. However, Committee would like to be apprised of the results of the exercise. The Ministry should indicate both the present position and the proposed pattern. (Para No. 28)

Government's reply

The Committee's recommendation regarding putting all Missions and Posts in 5 distinct categories has been adopted. In accordance with the criteria laid down by the Committee, Missions have been placed in the following categories :-

- (i) Missions/Posts in which HOMs/HOPs or the Political Officer is incharge of the publicity; there are 68 such Missions/Posts.
- (ii) Missions/Posts in which HOMs/HOPs or the Political Officer is assisted by an Information Attache; there are 16 such Missions/Posts.
- (iii) Missions/Posts in which the First/Second Secretary (Inf.) heads the Information Cell; there are 42 such Missions/Posts.
- (iv) Missions/Posts in which the Head of Information Section is assisted by an Information Attache; there are 3 such Missions/Posts.
- (v) Missions/Posts in which a Minister/Counsellor is assisted by a First/Second Secretary or Attache; there are 16 such Missions/Posts.

(Missions/Posts in the above 5 categories are at Annexure-I). The Ministry will give special emphasis to the requirements of Publicity work, and staff requirements of different Missions will be kept under review.

The Missions listed by the Committee with the observation that the posts of the Head of the Publicity division had not been upgraded are currently maned at the level indicated below :

(i) Bonn	- Minister
(ii) Tehran	- First Secretary
(iii) Jakarta	- First Secretary
(iv) Singapore	- First Secretary
(v) Tokyo	- First Secretary
(vi) Islamabad	- First Secretary

It will be seen that the Information Wing of the Embassy in Bonn is now headed by a Minister level Officer. As for the other five Missions, it may be pointed out that upgradation of the post of the Head of the Publicity wing would imply transferring a higher level post from another Mission to the Mission where the post is sought to be upgraded. This would naturally involve a re-evaluation of *inter-se* importance of the different Missions. This exercise would be undertaken shortly; the Government's preliminary response, however, is as follows :

- (i) Where the Missions are relatively small, it is necessary to select personnel not only on information and publicity considerations, but also taking into account the various other activities looked after by the officer;
- (ii) A cadre review of the Indian Foreign Service, which has been due for some time, is being undertaken. The recommendation of the Committee for maximising publicity effort through our Missions/ Posts and the need for adequately staffed Information Sections headed by officers of sufficient experience, will be duly taken into account in the context of the review.

(MEA Letter No. Q/Bud/734/2/94 dt. 28.7.1994)

Recommendation of the Committee

The Committee note that the BE 94-95 for Office Expenses in the Headquarters is Rs. 13.84 Crs. and for Missions is Rs. 69.80 Crs. The break-up of the office expenses into major items of expenditure such as local transport, telephone, stationery, P&T charges etc. has not been provided. In the absence of which it is difficult to evaluate the rationale behind the expenditure or its rise and fall. The Committee therefore desire that the

Ministry should in future provide the break-up of office expenses into various items of expenditure beginning with in the next year's demands for grants. Similarly, the break-up under salaries may also be provided so that a clear picture is available on expenditure, on salaries allowances, foreign allowances, representational grant, medical expenses etc. (Para No. 29)

Government's reply

The recommendation of the Committee has been discussed with the Ministry of Finance and the Joint Controller General of Accounts. It has been explained to this Ministry why, within the framework of the existing accounting system of the Government, with the standardised Object Heads, it would not be possible to include the break-up of these expenditures in the Demand for Grants.

However, this Ministry will provide the necessary information, giving the detailed break-up as desired by the Committee, in a separate note that would be submitted along with the Demand for Grants to the Standing Committee for 1995-96.

(MEA Letter No. Q/Bud/734/2/94 dt. 28.7.94)

Recommendation of the Committee

The Committee express concern that an internationally known Public Sector like ITDC's Ashok Hotel was not found suitable from security and service point of view for holding of International Summits like G-15. The Committee desire that the Ministry of External Affairs may take up the matter with the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation for refurbishing/improving the standard of services and the security arrangements in the Ashok Hotel so that in future accommodation for International Summits could be organised there without any difficulty. The Committee have taken note of the fact that expenditure on holding inter-governmental conferences in India has been rising sharply. They desire that every care should be under taken to control the expenditure while meeting fully the demand of hospitality and security. (Para No. 32)

Government's reply

As desired by the Committee, the matter has been taken up by the Foreign Secretary with the Secretary (Tourism) in the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation, and with the Home Secretary, for refurbishing/improving the standard of services and better security arrangements in the Ashoka Hotel in order to restore it to a standard appropriate for use in connection with Summit level meetings. The Ashok will be re-evaluated before the next major conference in Delhi is organised by MEA.

(MEA Letter No. Q/Bud/734/2/94 dt. 28.7.1994)

Recommendation of the Committee

The Committee would also like the Ministry of External Affairs to expeditiously work out the detailed system design regarding issue of passports already agreed to in principle, and implement accordingly, to ensure that passports are issued to the applicant within the stipulated time frame of 4 weeks. They would like to be apprised of the progress made in this regard. (Para No. 37)

Government's reply

The System Design study has already been commissioned. It will involve a complete assessment of the procedures, policy for issue of passports, office infrastructure and use of information technology and communication to improve the functioning of the passport offices. The report of the study is expected by the end of this year, and its recommendations will be placed before the standing committee.

(MEA Letter No. Q/Bud/734/2/94 dt. 28.7.1994)

Recommendation of the Committee

The Committee have noted that the estimates under B.8 – Other Expenditure covers a variety of expenditure including establishment, cultural diplomacy, international relations, consular assistance, as well as support for research projects and studies. The Committee appreciate that research studies and projects are a necessary input for the formulation of policy as well as collection of information. However, the Committee feel that as far as practicable the Ministry instead of relying upon few organisations some of which wholly funded by the Ministry such as the Society for Research and Information System (SRIS) should draw upon the entire academic and research spectrum available in the country, define its specific requirements and select the best institution available in any university or research institution of the country. The Committee have noted in this context the high level of grant-in-aid to the society for Research and Information System for non-aligned and developing countries. The Committee was informed that this society was an outcome of the Non-aligned Summit held in India. The Committee would like the Ministry to review the work of this society in relation to its original objectives of meeting a felt needs of non-aligned and developing countries. (Para No. 38)

Government's reply

The Research and Information System for the Non-Aligned and other Developing Countries (RIS) was established after the New Delhi NAM Summit (1983) in response to the growing realisation in the developing world that

they must have their own research and information network. It was set up as an autonomous institution with the basic objective of providing analytical support to the developing countries on various aspects of economic development and improving their capability to face the challenge of the emerging world economic scenario. While setting budgetary support and necessary facilities and assistance to enable it to discharge its function and realise its objectives. Continued support of RIS in conducting analytical studies is essential at a juncture when a number of developing countries are restructuring their economies, while at the same time meeting the needs of social infrastructure, especially for the poor.

As recommended by the Committee, a review is being undertaken of the work of RIS to ensure that the Society's work lead to direct and tangible benefits to the Government by way of relevant research and information inputs provided to the latter.

The view expressed by the Committee that the Ministry should draw upon the entire academic and research spectrum available in the country is fully shared by the Government. The Ministry of External Affairs have, indeed, been utilising the expertise and research facilities of several other institutions, such as : the Indian Council for Research in International Economic Relations (ICRIER); Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT); Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU); Institute of Defence Studies and Analysis (IDSA); Centre for south, Central, South East Asian and South West Pacific Studies; National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER); the Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi; Centre for the Study of Geopolitics, Chandigarh; Srirampore College, West Bengal; University of Lucknow; and H.N. Bahuguna Garhwal University, UP. In the Current financial year, Ministry proposes to co-operate with the University of Burdwan and the University of Jaipur in organising seminars, on Panchsheel and Sri Lanka respectively.

The Ministry would wish to reiterate that it has an open mind regarding the utilisation of research and information inputs available with any institution of repute in the country.

[MEA Letter No. Q/Bud/734/2/94 dt. 28.7.1994]

Recommendation of the Committee

The Committee regret to observe that the grants to the ICCR has remained static at the level of Rs. 15.00 Crs. from 1992-93 onwards which implies that in fact it has gone down in real terms. The Committee felt that even if no new centres were envisaged the maintenance of activities at the present level would justify an increase of 20 per cent over 1992-93. The Committee concluded that the Ministry of External Affairs had not been able

to put forward the case of the ICCR properly and effectively and that the Finance Ministry had failed to appreciate the need and desirability of cultural diplomacy. The Committee suggest that before formulating the revised estimates the President of the ICCR and the Finance Minister should together consider the question of additional funds for cultural activities abroad. The Committee hope that the report of the ICCR's Expert Committee shall be available to them. The Committee reiterate the view that in every Mission/Post one diplomatic officer should be charged with cultural work. In selected Missions/Posts there should be a Cultural Wing or a Sub Wing under the Information wing; in places where there is a cultural centre the Director should be the ex-officio cultural officer of Mission/Post. The Committee hope that this would be kept in view at the time of revising the budget. (Para No. 46)

Government's reply

The Committee's observation that before formulating the Revised Estimates, the President of the ICCR and the Finance Minister should together consider the question of additional funds, has been noted, and the President of the ICCR has been apprised accordingly. ICCR has already initiated action for working out the new requirement of funds for 1994-95. Once this is finalised, the Ministry would take up the matter with the Ministry of Finance well before the RE stage in order to allow them sufficient time to examine the issue. The Ministry will inform the Committee of the allocation of funds at the revised estimates Stage to ICCR during this financial year.

As the Committee was informed during the Second Session the General Assembly of the ICCR had empowered the President to set up three committees to go into the different aspects of ICCR's functioning. These are on the proposed budget of ICCR and its action plan; on revision of the ICCR's constitution; and an empanelment advisory committee on selection of artists, scholars etc. The Committees are expected to make recommendations on such matters as ICCR's budgetary requirements, greater effectiveness of the council, and changes that were needed in the Constitution of ICCR. The recommendations of the committees set up by the President of ICCR would be sent to the Standing Committee after these have been considered by the ICCR General Assembly.

In regard to the views expressed by the Standing Committee, Ministry has issued guidelines/instructions to all Head of Missions/Head of Posts to designate an officer to look after cultural work.

Missions which have cultural centres attached to them are given in Annexure-II. Directors of these Cultural Centres are invariably granted an appropriate rank in the Mission and are designated as cultural Officers of the Missions.

Missions which have cultural wings are enumerated at Annexure-III. A list of designated officers who are entrusted with cultural work in Missions and Posts not covered in annexures II & III above is at Annexure-IV.

Further Reply

As recommended by the Standing Committee, the question of additional funds had been considered by the President, ICCR and the Finance Minister. An additional amount of Rs. 6 crores has accordingly been given to the Council in RE 1994-95.

The three committees have already been set up : (i) The Planning Committee to consider the Council's Action Plan and other related aspects of the functioning of the Council; (ii) The Finance Committee, a statutory body, to consider the Council's budgetary and other related issues; and, (iii) The Empanelment Advisory committee on Selection of artistes, scholars, etc. The recommendations of these committees are being considered by the Council's General Assembly in its next meeting on 24th March, 1995. The recommendations will be sent to the Standing Committee after consideration by the General Assembly.

Position with regards to other issues are as explained in the Government's reply.

[MEA Letter No. Q/Bud/734/2/94 dt. 28.7.1994]

Recommendation of the Committee

The Committee reiterate the recommendation made in its First Report and desire the Ministry to persevere in its efforts with the objective of reviving the ICWA and restoring it as an autonomous institution of national importance and that they should find a way to break the current impasse through consultations. (Para No. 48)

Government's reply

The Committee's recommendation in this regard has been noted. Ministry have been persevering in its efforts to revive the ICWA. The President of ICWA has conveyed verbally to the Minister of State in this Ministry and to various senior officials, that he is in the process of seeking authority from his

Executive Committee to have a High Powered Committee to revive the functioning of ICWA and suggest what changes are necessary to restore it as an autonomous institution of national importance as suggested by the Standing Committee in its First Report. The Ministry is awaiting the ICWA President's confirmation that the necessary authority has been obtained for setting up the High Powered Committee.

[MEA Letter No. Q/Bud/734/2/94 dt. 28.7.1994]

Recommendation of the Committee

The Committee took note of the provision of Rs. 2.00 lakhs in BE 1994-95 for establishment of a Centre for Advanced Studies of India at the University of Pennsylvania, USA. The Committee welcome this step and express the view that all Missions/Posts abroad should be in touch with all universities in their jurisdiction which have a programme on Indian or South-Asian Studies and suitably encourage and assist them through gifting of books, academic visits, scholarships etc. The Committee also recommend for missions in countries where there are no such programmes should encourage such exercise in at least one major centre of research in that country. The Committee feel that the Ministry should impress upon missions/posts abroad the desirability of strengthening the academic interest and promoting academic interest on India and South Asia.

(Para No. 49)

Government's reply

The Standing Committee's observation has been noted for compliance. The Ministry has issued instructions to all Heads of Missions/Posts abroad to take necessary action in this regard, viz. to be in touch with the Universities and Institutions without programmes for Indian or south Asian Studies to take greater interest in India and to encourage them in this regard through various measures so that at least one centre of Studies on South Asia is developed in each Country.

It may be of interest to note that the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) is also actively engaged in a similar effort. ICCR sends visiting professors to various Universities abroad. This is done under the provisions of the various cultural exchange programmes.

At present, Chairs are being manned by Indian Professors at the following institutes and universities abroad: the Catholic University of Louvain/State University of Ghent (Belgium); University of Sofia (Bulgaria); University of Beijing (China); University of Helsinki (Finland - being deputed from

September, 94); Eotvos Lorand University (Hungary); Hankook University (South-Korea); two Chairs at the University of Warsaw (Poland); University of Paris (France); Silpokoran University (Thailand – being deputed July, 94); Ankara University (Turkey); University of West-Indies (Trinidad and Tobago); and University of Bucharest (Romania – from Oct., 94). In addition, an Associate Professor has been deputed to the Gadgah Mada University Yogyakarta (Indonesia) and a Professor to the Jawaharlal Nehru Cultural Centre in Moscow.

Under the Human Resource Development Ministry's programme of propagation of Hindi abroad, three Professors have been deputed to institutions abroad. Two of them have been deputed to the University of West-Indies and the School of Languages both at Port of Spain (Trinidad and Tobago) and one Professor to the Indian Cultural Centre, Paramaribo (Surinam). Such placements are administered by ICCR on behalf of the Human Resource Development Ministry on an "Agency basis."

[MEA Letter No. Q/Bud/734/2/94 dt. 28.7.1994]

Recommendation of the Committee

The Committee note with satisfaction that no payments (estimated at Rs. 21 Crs.) as subsidy to the Haj pilgrims on the purchase of foreign exchange were made during the year 1993-94 as had been recommended by them. However, the Committee regretted that its recommendation for progressively reducing and eventually eliminating the element of subsidy on their transportation to and from India has not been acted upon as evident from the proposed increase in such, expenditure from Rs. 18.28 crores during 1993-94 to Rs. 19.85 Crs. for 1994-95. The Committee expect the Ministry to ensure that the actual subsidy during 1994-95 is brought down as compared to 1993-94. (Para No. 58)

Government's reply

According to the Report of the Standing Committee, the cost of air/sea charter between the mainland and the A&N Islands should be excluded in computing the Haj subsidy. Adopting this basis and taking the revised figures, it is estimated that the subsidy for Haj 1994 would be Rs. 16.26 Crs. compared to the subsidy of Rs. 19.81 Crs. in 1993. The actual subsidy would thus have been brought down significantly in accordance with the Committee's recommendations.

The main reason for this reduction is the lower subsidy on account of air charters. The subsidy per pilgrim has dropped from Rs. 7000 in 1993 to

Rs. 5000 in 1994 following the increase in the Haj pilgrims fare from Rs. 11,000 in 1993 to Rs. 12,000 in 1994 and a reduction in the character hire cost from Rs. 18,000 in 1993 to Rs. 17,000 in 1994 per pilgrim. The number of pilgrims availing of the subsidised air fare is 20620 (1994).

The subsidy on account of sea travel, on the other hand, would increase slightly in 1994 compared to 1993. This subsidy, which is the difference between the operating cost of MV Nicobar and the fare collected from 4700 pilgrims availing of subsidised sea travel would work out to Rs. 5.95 crs. in 1994 compared to Rs. 5.49 crs. in 1993.

[MEA Letter No. Q/Bud/734/2/94 dt. 28.7.1994]

Recommendation of the Committee

The Committee note that the subsidy on account of air travel is borne under the budget of Ministry of Civil Aviation and that on account of travel by sea is borne on Ministry of Surface Transport's budget. However, the cost linked to the chartering of the vessel in place of the regular vessels, (with drawn for haj pilgrims) for operation in the Madras-Port Blair Sector for the Andaman and Nicobar Islanders and the payment of Indian Airlines for Charter operations between Madras/Calcutta-Port Blair and borne on the budget of Ministry of External Affairs. Since Andaman and Nicobar is a Union Territory, this expenditure should have been booked in the budget of Ministry of Home Affairs. The Committee would like the Ministry of External Affairs to take up this matter with the Finance Ministry. (Para No. 59)

Government's reply

The following decision taken by the Government, and developments having a bearing on the subsidy, are relevant in this regard :-

- (i) Haj sailings would be discontinued from next year (1995) and all pilgrims would travel by air.
- (ii) In view of the above, there should be no need to withdraw a ship from the A&N Islands Administration for Haj sailings from Haj 1995 onwards, or to make alternative arrangements in lieu for the A&N commuters.
- (iii) M.V. Akbar is expected to resume operations in August/September, 1994 after refit and renovation. M.V. Akbar was purchased by the A&N Administration from the SCI with a written stipulation in the sale deed that it would be made available for Haj sailings when necessary. Thus M.V. Akbar could in any case be withdrawn if necessary, without any compensatory arrangement having to be made for A&N commuters next year.

It would be seen from the above that the question of transfer of the expenditure on in-lieu sailings/flights from the MEA to the MHA budget would have become moot since this expenditure will not be incurred after Haj 1994.

However, in view of the Committee's observation, this Ministry has already approached the Ministry of Finance with the request that the above mentioned expenditure be borne on the budget of the Ministry of Home Affairs. In practice, this would be relevant only in the event it is decided to provide, this service to the A &N Islanders in any subsequent year. The response of the Ministry of Finance is awaited, and will be intimated to the Committee.

[MEA Letter No. Q/Bud/734/2/94 dt. 28.7.1994]

Recommendation of the Committee

From the facts placed before the Committee it is clear that the total subsidy on the Haj Pilgrims is not shown at one place in the Demands for Grants. Even though the subsidy on travel is booked in the budget of different Ministries, the Ministry of External Affairs may examine the feasibility of collecting these figures and depicting the total subsidy on travel as well as expenditure incurred by them on the Haj Godwill delegation at one place., in their Demands for Grants in order to give an idea of the totality of the subsidy on Haj pilgrims. This may be included within the demands for grants for Ministry of External Affairs. (Para No. 60)

Government's reply

As desired by the Committee, this Ministry will collect the subsidy figures, borne on the budgets of the different Ministries, and provide the same to the Standing Committee. However, given the stipulated format which the Demand for Grants is required to follow, it would not be possible to include it formally in that document. In that event, the information would be provided in a note supplied with the Demands for Grants for 1995-96.

[MEA Letter No. Q/Bud/2/94 dt. 28.7.94]

Recommendation of the Committee

The Committee note that the number of properties rented by Missions/ Posts out number those owned by them abroad. Consequently substantial expenditure is incurred every year on the rented premises which is estimated in RE 93-94 as Rs. 80.53 Crs. against the actual expenditure in 1992-93 of Rs. 60.89 Crs. of the BE 94-95 in this regard is Rs. 86.67 Crs. In view of

continuous universal increase in rentals on the buildings and shortage of accommodation for officers and staff in India, there is an imperative need to acquire/construct more and more buildings both in India and abroad so as to dispense with hired accommodations as early as possible. In this connection the curtailment of the total budget demand of Rs. 56.7 Crs. under M.H. 4059 and 4216 to Rs. 33.95 Crs. only in the Budget Estimates would affect the programme of acquisition of requisite number of buildings by the Ministry of External Affairs. Acquisition of buildings saves the Ministry's time and energy to search for suitable accommodation. It also would not have to suffer the burden of increasing rentals year after year besides affecting efficiency to a certain extent. The Committee hope that Ministry of Finance would reconsider the matter again, at least at RE stage, and try to provide more funds for this purpose. (Para No. 70)

Recommendation of the Committee

The Committee also desire that the Ministry draw up a time bound programme for the construction/acquisition of properties abroad, taking into account the long gestation period for such acquisition/construction. However, no new construction projects may be taken up by the Ministry until the current construction projects have been executed so as not to scatter the available resources. In view of the rising value of real estate the Ministry should be prepared to give due and expeditious consideration to an attractive proposal from missions/posts and if necessary seek special allocation. (Para 71)

Recommendation of the Committee

The Ministry may also assess the total demand for official as well as residential buildings in and outside India with a view to drawing up a relevant plan in this regard. The priorities in the proposed plan could then be identified and the same could be executed in the coming years under a time bound programme. (Para 72).

Government's reply

As per the directive of the Standing Committee, the Ministry has initiated an exercise to assess the total demand for official as well as residential buildings in and outside India as also to draw up a suitable plan, for time-bound implementation, with regard to purchase/construction of properties. All the Missions have been asked to send information, according to a format laid down, which would be utilised to draw up the above-mentioned construction/purchase programme. Such a programme over the coming years will be made available to the Committee when it is ready. At the same time

the Ministry will concentrate on completion of the current construction projects. As the Ministry acquires plots of land on reciprocal basis, in exchange for plots of land allotted to diplomatic missions in India, it may have to undertake new construction projects in cases where economically and politically attractive proposals are received from Missions/Posts. As recommended by the Standing Committee, the Ministry will also give due and expeditious consideration to acquisition proposals from Missions/Posts, and if necessary, would seek special allocation from the Ministry of Finance even before the RE 94-95 stage.

[MEA Letter No. Q/Bud/734/2/94 dt. 28.7.1994].

Further Reply to Para 70

The increased provision under RE 1993-94 (Rs. 80.53 crores) over actual expenditure of Rs. 60.89 crores in 1992-93 was on account of the following reasons :-

- (i) Depreciation in the value of Rupee *vis-a-vis* US Dollar, which is the major currency of expenditure and payment of rents by our Missions (the rate changed from US \$ 1 = Rs. 25.95, at the time when BE 1993-94 was compiled, to US \$ 1 = Rs. 31.50. The latter rate prevailed throughout 1993-94).
- (ii) Rental liability in respect of the High Commission in Brunei as also consulates General at St. Petersburg and Johannesburg. (These Missions were opened after compilation of BE 1993-94).
- (iii) Normal rental increase around the world. This increase has been particularly sharp in some East-European countries, following introduction of market economy.

BE 1994-95 (Rs. 86.67 crores) represents an increase of 7.62% only over RE 1993-94 (Rs. 80.53 crores). This increase is to take care of normal anticipated rental increases in various countries, as projected by our Missions.

The Ministry is fully conscious of the need to acquire/construct properties abroad with a view to cutting down the rental liability and will do its best in this regard within the available budgetary resources. At the RE 1994-95 stage, this Ministry had requested the Ministry of Finance to sanction a budget of Rs. 72.72 crores for purchase/construction/maintenance of properties as against the BE 1994-95 provision of Rs. 33.95 crores for the purpose. However, the actual RE 1994-95 sanction is Rs. 45 crores.

[MEA Letter No. Q/Bud/734/2/94 dt. 28.7.1994]

CHAPTER III

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLIES

Recommendation of the Committee

The Committee find that the apparent increase in the rupee component for BE 94-95 *vis-a-vis* RE 93-94 is only Rs. 15.77 Crs. which comes to 4.7% if the "onetime" exceptional provisions are discounted from the BE 93-94. The Committee feel that this increase is inadequate to maintain our diplomatic activity at the same level given the annual rate of inflation. The Committee desire that the Budget proposal should be so framed as to ensure that there is an increase in rupee component in real terms so that the activities and services which depend upon the rupee component do not suffer on account of constraint in availability of funds. (Para No. 13)

Government's reply

The point made by the Committee regarding the need to ensure adequate Rupee Component in the budget of the Ministry to provide for the necessary growth, in real terms, of services linked to expenditure in Rupees is well taken.

However, as mentioned in Government's reply to para 9 of the Report, the practice followed in the formulation of the budget is that only expenditure that can be foreseen and quantified are included. A necessary consequence of this fact is that during the course of the year, as and when, expenditure not foreseen at the budget preparation stage become evident, they need to be included in the Revised Estimates. Thus, a comparison between the Budget Estimates of one year with the Revised Estimates of the preceding year inevitably tend to understate the former. There is no means within the framework of the existing budget preparation procedure to rectify what seems at first sight to be inadequate budget provisioning.

If the supplementary provisions made during the course of the year are taken into account, it would be possible to make a more accurate year to year comparison between 1993-94 and 1994-95. Otherwise the figures between BE 93-94 & BE 94-95 would make for a more realistic comparison.

[MEA Letter No. Q/Bud/734/2/94 dt. 28.7.1994].

Recommendation of the Committee

Coming to the foreign exchange component the budget estimate for 1994-95 is at the same level; in fact one crore less than the revised estimate 1993-94. This implies that the level of our diplomatic activity abroad given the average inflation all over the world is likely to go down. The Committee would like the Ministry of External Affairs to ensure that while formulating the budget our diplomatic activities do not suffer on account of paucity of funds. (Para No. 14)

Government's reply

The reply given to the Committee's recommendation on para 13 applies to this paragraph as well. In addition, it may also be pointed out that the over-riding constraint of limited resources leading to curtailment of budgetary provisions by the Finance Ministry does often result in uneven reductions between the Rupee and the foreign exchange components of the Ministry's budget depending on what expenditure is considered by Finance to be inescapable. Notwithstanding this factor, the Ministry will endeavour to maintain a better balance between the two components in future so that any possibility of services which depend on one or the other component suffering disproportionately on account of funding constraint, is eliminated.

[MEA Letter No. Q/Bud/734/2/94 dt. 28.7.1994]

Recommendation of the Committee

The Committee note with concern the rising trend in travel expenses under the Head A. 1(4) - Secretariat which increased from Rs. 5.00 Crores in 1991-92 to Rs. 8.95 Crores in 92-93. And in the year 93-94 it may be actually more than the RE of Rs. 11.00 Crs. While there may be increase in a particular year due to certain unforeseen factors, the gradual steep increase is undesirable and needs to be checked. The Committee expect the Ministry to pay greater attention to this matter. (Para No. 20)

Government's reply

The Ministry, as a matter of policy, closely monitors and controls the expenditure under all heads, particularly, the expenditure on travel. However, as submitted earlier to the Committee, the increasing need for official travel linked to emerging international developments (often to counter Pakistan propaganda) and high level visits, coupled with the sharp and repeated increases in International air-fare often make the task of containing expenditure within the originally budgeted amount difficult, necessitating the allocation of additional funds under this head.

[MEA Letter No. Q/Bud/734/2/94 dt. 28.7.1994]

Recommendation of the Committee

The Committee note that the staff housing project in Pappankalan is to house 231 dwelling units on a plot of area of 4.08 acres. Likewise, the plot in Chanakyapuri having an area of 5.3 acres would house only 60 units. The Committee are of the opinion that though the officers complex may have bigger units but the wide disparity in both the cases should be diminished so that the number of dwelling units per unit area in both the cases do not go beyond a reasonable limit. (Para No. 73)

Government's reply

In response to the Committee's observation that the wide disparity between the number of dwelling units, planned for the Pappankalan and Chanakyapuri housing projects, should be reduced, it may be clarified that the lower number of dwelling units that can be constructed on the Chanakyapuri plot is not only because of bigger units, but also due to the fact that the prescribed floor area ratio for the Chanakyapuri plot is 75% of the plot area, whereas this ratio for the Pappankalan plot is 133%. The above Floor Area Ratios are as per the Master Plan of DDA. The maximum permissible floor areas will be constructed in both the residential complexes, keeping in view the prescribed Floor Area Ratios. It may also be mentioned that the areas to be provided in the different categories of residential units will be in accordance with the entitlement of the officers concerned.

[MEA Letter No. Q/Bud/734/2/ 94 dt. 28.7.1994]

CHAPTER IV

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED

Recommendation of the Committee

The Committee find that there is substantial increase to the tune of Rs. 18.90 Crs. in the RE 93-94 over BE 93-94 and the BE 94-95 also exceed the RE 93-94 by about Rs. 4.00 Crs. This increase, perhaps, has been agreed to by the Ministry of Finance taking into consideration the substantial increase in revenue from Passport and Visa fees. The break-up of the increase reveal that large funds are being used for increased demand for booklets, computerisation postal charges, office expenditure etc. The Committee hope that large expenditure incurred in 1993-94 and to be incurred in 1994-95 from this increased allocation would be utilised for augmenting and improving the facilities e.g. by opening new Offices. In this regard, the Chairman of the Standing Committee on External Affairs has already appointed a sub-committee to go deeper into the several complaints regarding issuing of Passports. Meanwhile, whatever suitable measures are required should be taken up at the earliest. Apart from expeditious computerisation of the Passport Offices, the Ministry should also see that 400 additional post sanctioned last year are filled up, as earliest possible. The Committee feel that the passport organisation should pay for itself but the fees and service charges could be commensurate with the cost and expenditure incurred. (Para No. 36)

Government's reply

As explained during the meeting of the Standing Committee, revenue earnings from issue of passports and visas are not directly available for utilisation in the provision of passport and visa services. However, it is the intention of the Ministry to make adequate allocation for improving the facilities of the passport offices in the light of the increased revenue earnings from passport and visa fees. (It must be mentioned that of the total revenue of Rs. 155 crores collected during the year 1993-94, only Rs. 57 crores was collected as passport fees by the passport offices in India, the balance coming from passport, visa and consular fees collected by our Missions/Posts abroad and Visa fees in India).

Regarding the recommendation for opening of new passport offices, it may be mentioned that Government will consider expanding the network of

passport offices, where location would depend on a number of parameters including, in particular, the estimated workload. It has been Government's experience that merely opening of new offices does not necessarily improve the quality of service unless the necessary infrastructure and personnel are provided. Indeed, strengthening the existing offices which are not fully equipped to handle the current demand for passport services may, perhaps, yield better results than opening new ones. Effort is presently focussed on ensuring that applications are expeditiously processed so that delays in issuing passports are reduced to the minimum. Simultaneously, upgrading of premises, equipment and facilities for the public and the staff at all Passport Offices is being undertaken.

As far computerisation, Passport Offices at Delhi, Bangalore and Bombay, as also the Central Passport Organisation, have been computerized. Work has begun on Passport Offices at Cochin and Kozhikode. Estimates for Hyderabad and Madras are being processed. Estimates have been sought for computerisation of Passport Offices at Trichy, Trivandrum, Calcutta, Bareilly, Bhopal, Lucknow, Patna, Jaipur, Ahmedabad, Chandigarh and Jalandhar.

Of the 400 additional posts sanctioned in 1992 for the Central Passport Organisation, 333 posts have been already filled. Recruitment in the Passport Offices above Group 'D' takes place only at the level of LDC. The 400 additional posts created last year can, therefore, only be filled by recruitment at this level even though some of the additional posts are at higher levels. (Such higher level posts are filled up by promotion).

Under the existing rules, all recruitment to regular posts at the level of LDCs are made on the basis of nominations received from the Staff Selection Commission. In order to fill up the newly created posts, a Special Qualifying Examination for those employed on a casual basis in the Passport offices was conducted on 26th December, 1993. The Staff Selection Commission has been nominating persons for appointment on the basis of the SQE.

There has, however, been some delay in completing the recruitment for the additional posts mainly on account of the mismatch between the number of such posts in each Passport Office and the number of candidates qualifying from that office. Nonetheless it is expected that the remaining vacancies would be filled during the current year by persons who either qualified in the SQE or are selected by the Staff Selection Commission under normal recruitment.

The Government shares the Committee's views that the passport organisation should pay for itself and that the fees and service charges should be roughly commensurate with the expenditure incurred on providing passport and visa services.

Recommendation of the Committee

The Committee are concerned to note the rise in the expenditure on the Haj Goodwill Delegation to Saudi Arabia for which a provision of about Rs. 1 Cr. has been made in the BE 1994-95. The Committee are not convinced that such delegations serve any useful purpose during the Haj when no effective discussions far less negotiations with the Saudi Arabian authorities on Haj matters are possible. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the size of the delegation should be reduced to a token representation of the Government of India if considered necessary and the saving so effected should be utilised to the extent necessary for upgrading welfare activities for the pilgrims. (Para No. 61)

Government's reply

The Haj Goodwill Delegation comprises representatives not only from the Govt. of India but also from the State Govts. and prominent members of the Muslim Community from all walks of life. Its essential purpose is not merely that of official interaction with the Saudi Government which is in any case done on a continuous basis by our Mission in Saudi Arabia. Its purposes is rather to emphasize to the Saudi authorities the importance which the Government of India attaches to the welfare of Indian pilgrims during the Haj. The delegation interacts with Saudi authorities at different levels as well as with other foreign delegations, reviews the arrangements made and submits an independent report to the Government of India, which includes recommendations for further improvement of the Haj administration and facilities. Its activities and report are an essential and useful supplement to the reports made by the Consulate General of India, Jeddah and the Central and State Haj Committees. The Government of India do not consider the Haj to be merely an official or administrative exercise and feel that it is important to associate and obtain inputs and suggestions for improvement, from various other sources.

In view of the above, the Ministry would find it difficult to comply with the observation that the Haj Goodwill Delegation should be reduced to a token representation of the Government of India.

[MEA Letter No. Q/Bud/734/2/94]

CHAPTER V

**OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH
FINAL REPLIES OF GOVERNMENT ARE STILL AWAITED**

NIL

NEW DELHI;
17 April, 1995

27 Chaitra, 1917 (Saka)

ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE,
Chariman,
Standing Committee on External Affairs.

APPENDIX - I

MINUTES OF THE SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS HELD ON MONDAY, THE 17TH APRIL, 1995

The Committee sat from 15.00 to 17.00 hours.

PRESENT

Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee — *Chariman*

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

2. Shri Bijoy Krishna Handique
3. Shri Venkata Krishna Reddy Kasu
4. Shri Inder Jit
5. Dr. Girija Vyas
6. Shri Udaysingrao Gaikwad
7. Shri Satya Deo Singh
8. Dr. Lal Bahadur Rawal
9. Shri Syed Shahabuddin
10. Mohd. Yunus Saleem
11. Shri Roshan Lal
12. Dr. Sudhir Ray
13. Shri Ebrahim Sulaiman Sait

Rajya Sabha

14. Shri Sikander Bakht
15. Shri Jagesh Desai
16. Shri G. Swaminathan
17. Shri G.G. Swell
18. Shri V.N. Gadgil
19. Shri K. Rahman Khan
20. Shri Inder Kumar Gujral
21. Shri Triloki Nath Chaturvedi
22. Smt. Vyjayantimala Bali

SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1. Shri Ashok Kumar Pandey | - | Additional Secretary |
| 2. Shri G.R. Patwardhan | - | Joint Secretary |
| 3. Shri O.P. Ghai | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 4. Shri Ashok Sarin | - | Under Secretary |

At the outset the Chairman welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee. The Committee then considered the following draft reports :

- (i) Draft report on Action Taken on the recommendations contained in the 2nd Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants of MEA for 1994-95.

2. The Chairman invited Members to offer their suggestions for incorporation into the draft reports. The Members suggested certain modifications/amendments and desired that those be suitably incorporated into the body of the reports.

3. The Draft reports were then adopted. The Committee then authorised the Chairman to finalise the reports for presentation to the House.

* * *

The Committee then adjourned.

APPENDIX - II

(Vide Introduction of Report)

Analysis of Action Taken by Government on the 2nd Report of Standing Committee on External Affairs (10th Lok Sabha)

- I. Total Number of Recommendations: 24
- II. Observations/Recommendations that have been accepted by the Government :
- | | | |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Para Nos. | 9, 11, 21, 27, 28, 29, 32, 37, 38, 46, 48, 49, 58, 59, 60, 70, 71, 72. | Total 18
Percentage 75% |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
- III. Observations/recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies
- | | | |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Para Nos. | 13, 14, 20 and 73. | Total 4
Percentage 16.7% |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
- IV. Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted :
- | | | |
|-----------|------------|----------------------------|
| Para Nos. | 36 and 61. | Total 2
Percentage 8.3% |
|-----------|------------|----------------------------|
- V. Observations/Recommendations in respect of which final replies of Government are still awaited.
- Nil

APPENDIX III

Annexure 'A'

CATEGORISATION FOR PUBLICITY EFFORT IN MISSIONS ABROAD

EMBASSIES

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Mission</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Category*</i>
1.	EI Addis Ababa	Ethiopia	I
2.	EI Almaty	Kazakistan	I
3.	EI Ashkhanbad	Turkmenistan	I
4.	EI Baghdad	Iraq	I
5.	EI Bahrain	Bahrain	I
6.	EI Bangkok	Thailand	I
7.	EI Beirut	Lebanon	I
8.	EI Belgrade	Yugoslavia	I
9.	EI Brasilia	Kyrgyzstan	I
10.	EI Brishkek	Brazil	I
11.	EI Copenhagen	Denmark	I
12.	EI Dakar	Senegal	I
13.	EI Doha	Qatar	I
14.	EI Dublin	Ireland	I
15.	EI Dushaube	Tajikistan	I
16.	EI Hanoi	Vietnam	I
17.	EI Havana	Cuba	I
18.	EI Helsinki	Finland	I
19.	EI Khartoum	Sudan	I
20.	EI Lisbon	Portugal	I
21.	EI Madrid	Spain	I
22.	EI Mexico City	Mexico	I
23.	EI Oslo	Norway	I
24.	EI Panama	Panama	I
25.	EI Phnom Penh	Cambodia	I
26.	EI Seoul	Korea (South)	I
27.	EI Sofin	Bulgaria	I
28.	EI Stockholm	Sweden	I
29.	EI Ulan Bator	Mongolia	I
30.	EI Vienna	Austria	I
31.	EI Vientinne	Laos	I
32.	EI Warsaw	Poland	I

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Mission</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Category</i>
---------------	----------------	----------------	-----------------

HIGH COMMISSIONS OF INDIA

1.	HCI Accra	Ghana	I
2.	HCI Camberra	Australia	I
3.	HCI Dhaka	Bangladesh	I
4.	HCI Kampala	Uganda	I
5.	HCI Kingston	Jamaica	I
6.	HCI Kuala Lumpur	Malaysia	I
7.	HCI Lagos	Nigeria	I
8.	HCI Malta	Malta	I
9.	HCI Nicosin	Cyprus	I
10.	HCI Port Louis	Mauritius	I
11.	HCI Wellington	New Zealand	I
12.	HCI Windhoek	Namibia	I

CONSULATE GENERALS OF INDIA

1.	CGI Chiangmai	Thailand	I
2.	CGI Durban	South Africa	I
3.	CGI Hamburg	Germany	I
4.	CGI Ho-Chi-Minh City	Vietnam	I
5.	CGI Isatanbul	Turkey	I
6.	CGI Karachi	Pakistan	I
7.	CGI Medan	Indonesia	I
8.	CGI Milan	Italy	I
9.	CGI Odessa	Ukraine	I
10.	CGI Osaka - Kobe	Japan	I
11.	CGI Port Said	Egypt	I
12.	CGI Reunion Islands	France	I
13.	CGI San Francisco	U.S.A.	I
14.	CGI Shiraz	Iran	I
15.	CGI VIndivostok	Russia	I
16.	CGI Zahidan	Iran	I
17.	CGI Zanzibar	Tanzania	I

ASSISTANT HIGH COMMISSIONS

1.	AHCIChattagong	Bangladesh	I
2.	AHCIKandy	Sri Lanka	I

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Mission</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Category</i>
3.	AHCIRajshahi	Bangladesh	I

COMMISSIONS

1.	CI Hong Kong	Hong Kong	I
2.	CI Mombasa	Kenya	I

SPECIAL MISSIONS

1.	Berlin (Off. of EI)	Germany	I
2.	New York (PMI)	United States of America	I

Total Number of Missions under Category I = 68

CATEGORISATION FOR PUBLICITY EFFORT IN MISSIONS ABROAD

EMBASSIES

<i>S. No.</i>		<i>Mission</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Category</i>
1.	EI	Algiers	Algeria	III
2.	EI	Ankara	Turkey	III
3.	EI	Antananarivo	Madagascar	III
4.	EI	Bangkok	Thailand	III
5.	EI	Brussels	Belgium	III
6.	EI	Budapest	Hungary	III
7.	EI	Cairo	Egypt	III
8.	EI	Jakarta	Indonesia	III
9.	EI	Kathmandu	Nepal	III
10.	EI	Kiev	Ukraine	III
11.	EI	Kuwait	Kuwait	III
12.	EI	Manila	Phillippines	III
13.	EI	Muscat	Oman	III
14.	EI	Paris	France	III
15.	EI	Pretoria	South Africa	III
16.	EI	Rabat	Morocco	III
17.	EI	Riyadh	Saudi Arabia	III
18.	EI	Rome	Italy	III
19.	EI	Sana'a	Yemen	III
20.	EI	Tashkent	Uzbekistan	III
21.	EI	The Hague	Netherlands	III
22.	EI	Thimphu	Bhutan	III
23.	EI	Tokyo	Japan	III
24.	EI	Tripoli	Libya	III
25.	EI	Bucharest	Romania	III

HIGH COMMISSIONS OF INDIA

1.	HCI	Colombo	Sri Lanka	III
2.	HCI	Gaborone	Botswana	III
3.	HCI	Georgetown	Guyana	III
4.	HCI	Islamabad	Pakistan	III
5.	HCI	Lusaka	Zambia	III
6.	HCI	Mahe	Seychelles	III

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Mission</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Category</i>	
7.	HCI	Ottawa	Canada	III
8.	HCI	Port of Spain	Trinidad and Tobago	III
9.	HCI	Singapore	Singapore	III

CONSULATE GENERALS OF INDIA

1.	CGI	Birmingham	U.K.	III
2.	CGI	Dubai	UAE	III
3.	CGI	Jeddah	Saudi Arabia	III
4.	CGI	New York	USA	III
5.	CGI	San Francisco	USA	III
6.	CGI	Shanghai	China	III
7.	CGI	Sydney	Australia	III
8.	CGI	Vancouver	Canada	III

(Total Number of Missions under Category III = 42)

CATEGORISATION FOR PUBLICITY EFFORT IN MISSIONS ABROAD

EMBASSIES

<i>S. No.</i>		<i>Mission</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Category *</i>
1.	EI	Abidjan	Ivory Coast	II
2.	EI	Amman	Jordan	II
3.	EI	Athens	Greece	II
4.	EI	Buenos Aires	Argentina	II
5.	EI	Caracas	Venezuela	II
6.	EI	Luanda	Angola	II
7.	EI	Maputo	Mozambique	II
8.	EI	Minsk	Belarus	II
9.	EI	Paramaribo	Suriname	II
10.	EI	Santiago	Chile	II
11.	EI	Tunis	Tunisia	II

HIGH COMMISSIONS OF INDIA

1.	HCI	Bander Seri Begawan	Brunei	II
2.	HCI	Nairobi	Kenya	II

CONSULATE GENERALS OF INDIA

1.	CGI	Chicago	U.S.A.	II
2.	CGI	Frankfurt	Germany	II
3.	CGI	Johannesburg	South Africa	II

(Total Number of Missions under Category II = 16)

CATEGORISATION FOR PUBLICITY EFFORT IN MISSIONS ABROAD

EMBASSIES

<i>S. No.</i>		<i>Mission</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Category</i>
1.	EI	Damascus	Syria	IV
2.	EI	Pyongyang	Korea (North)	IV

CONSULATE GENERALS OF INDIA

3.	CGI	Toronto	Canada	IV
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**Total Number of Missions under Category IV = 3*

CATEGORISATION FOR PUBLICITY EFFORT IN MISSIONS ABROAD

EMBASSIES

S. No.	Mission	Country	Category
1.	EI Abu Dhabi	U.A.S.E.	V
2.	EI Beijing	China	V
3.	EI Berne	Switzerland	V
4.	EI Bonn	Germany	V
5.	EI Lima	Peru	V
6.	EI Moscow	Russia	V
7.	EI Prague	Czech. Rep.	V
8.	EI Tehran	Iran	V
9.	EI Tel Aviv	Israel	V
10.	EI Washington	U.S.A.	V
11.	EI Yangon	Myanmar	V

HIGH COMMISSIONS OF INDIA

1.	HCI Dar-es-Salaam	Tanzania	V
2.	HCI Harare	Zimbabwe	V
3.	HCI London	United Kingdom	V
4.	HCI Male	Maldives	V

SPECIAL MISSIONS

1.	Geneva (PMI)	Switzerland	V
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**Total Number of Missions under Category II = 16*

CULTURAL CENTRES IN MISSIONS ABROAD**EMBASSIES**

- | | | | | |
|----|----|------------|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. | EI | Almaty | Kazakhstan | Mrs. N. Bhatia, Director
Cultural Centre Almaty. |
| 2. | EI | Cairo | Egypt | Dr. Imset Mehdi, Director
Cultural Centre, Maulana
Abul Kalam Centre for
Indian Culture. |
| 3. | EI | Jakarta | Indonesia | Shri J. A. Khan, FS
Director (JNICC). |
| 4. | EI | Moscow | Russia | Shri Pavan Varma, Couns.
Jawahar Lal Nehru Cultural
Centre (Moscow). |
| 5. | EI | Paramaribo | Suriname | Shri A. Srinivasan, Director,
Indian Cultural Centre. |
| 6. | EI | Tashkent | Uzbekistan | Dr. Vinod Bhatia
Indian Cultural Centre. |

HIGH COMMISIONS OF INDIA

- | | | | | |
|----|-----|------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. | HCI | Georgetown | Guyana | Shri R. K. Saxena, Director
Indian Cultural Centre. |
| 2. | HCI | London | United Kingdom | Shri Gopal K. Gandhi,
Min. Cul./Dir. Nehru Centre. |
| 3. | HCI | Port Louis | Mauritius | Shri J. W. Lobo, FS
Director, International Centre
for Indian Culture. |

SPECIAL MISSIONS

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------|---------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. | Berlin (Off. of EI) | Germany | Shri M. S. Puri, FS (Cul.)
Cultural Centre, Berlin. |
|----|---------------------|---------|--------------------------------------------------------|

***Total number of Missions under this category = 10**

CULTURAL WINGS IN MISSIONS ABROAD

EMBASSIES

- | | | | | |
|----|----|-----------|---------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. | EI | Bonn | Germany | Shri Dinkar Asthana, SS |
| 2. | EI | Kathmandu | Nepal | Shri Madhup Mohta, FS (Des) |
| 3. | EI | Paris | France | Shri Ashok Tomar, Coun.
Shri P. K. Kapur, Coun. (Des) |
| 4. | EI | Rome | Italy | Shri A. Mishra, SS |
| 5. | EI | Tehran | Iran | Shri A. A. Usmani, FS |
| 6. | EI | Yangon | Myanmar | Shri I. K. Govind, Coun. |

CONSULATE GENERALS OF INDIA

- | | | | | |
|----|-----|----------|--------|------------------------------|
| 1. | CGI | New York | U.S.A. | Shri M. L. Gilautra, Consul. |
|----|-----|----------|--------|------------------------------|

HIGH COMMISSIONS OF INDIA

- | | | | | |
|----|-----|-------|------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 1. | HCI | Dhaka | Bangladesh | Dr. (Miss) K. Bhattacharya,
First Secretary |
|----|-----|-------|------------|------------------------------------------------|

* * * * *

Total number of Missions in this category = 11

OFFICERS ALLOTTED CULTURAL WORK

EMBASSIES

1. EI	Abidjan	Ivory Coast	Shri Jaljit Singh, Attache
2. EI	Abu Dhabi	U.A.E.	Shri A. Beuria, Counsellor
3. EI	Addis Ababa	Ethiopia	Shri R. P. Goswami, Couns.
4. EI	Algiers	Algeria	Mrs. N. Tshering La, TS (Int.)
5. EI	Amman	Jordan	Shri Surjit Singh, FS
6. EI	Ankara	Turkey	Shri Shamma Jain, FS
7. EI	Antananarivo	Madagascar	Shri K. P. Ram, FS
8. EI	Ashkhabad	Turkmenistan	Shri Dharam Paul, FS
9. EI	Athens	Greece	Shri R. P. Kaushik, Attache
10. EI	Baghdad	Iraq	Shri Arif Qamarain, Amb.
11. EI	Bahrain	Bahrain	Shri C. S. Kataria, FS
12. EI	Bangkok	Thailand	Shri V. Fonia, FS
13. EI	Beijing	China	Shri Sanjay Verma, SS
14. EI	Beirut	Lebanon	Shri Jagdish Prashad, Attache
15. EI	Belgrade	Yugoslavia	Shri A. K. Mudgal, C.d' A.
16. EI	Berne	Switzerland	Shri C. R. Bain, Attache
17. EI	Bishkek	Kyrgyzstan	Shri Hansraj, SS
18. EI	Brasilia	Brazil	Shri G. Jagannathan, Coun.
19. EI	Brussels	Belgium	Shri C. M. Pillai, SS
20. EI	Bucharest	Romania	Shri Tarsem Lal, FS
21. EI	Budapest	Hungary	Shri J. K. Tripathi, SS
22. EI	Buenos Aires	Argentina	Shri A. Majid Padar, TS
23. EI	Caracas	Venezuela	Shri H. L. Malik, Attache
24. EI	Copenhagen	Denmark	Shri B. N. Verma, Attache
25. EI	Dakar	Senegal	Shri Arun Kumar Goel, Coun.
26. EI	Damascus	Syria	Shri I. M. Pandey, SS
27. EI	Doha	Qatar	Shri S. C. Trehan, FS
28. EI	Dublin	Ireland	Shri Lal Dingliana, Coun.
29. EI	Dushanbe	Tajikistan	Shri G. Dharmendra, SS
30. EI	Hanoi	Vietnam	Shri V. Tiwathia, FS
31. EI	Havana	Cuba	Shri Dammu Ravi, SS
32. EI	Helsinki	Finland	Shri Zile Singh, FS
33. EI	Kabul	Afghanistan	Temp. closed

34. EI	Khartoum	Sudan	Shri S. R. Grover, SS
35. EI	Kiev	Ukraine	Smt. Reenat Sandhu, SS
36. EI	Kuwait	Kuwait	Shri N. K. Sharma, SS
37. EI	Lima	Peru	Shri R. Lobo, Coun.
38. EI	Lisbon	Portugal	Shri P. Satpathy, TS (LT)
39. EI	Luanda	Angola	Shri D. P. Kapoor, Attache
40. EI	Madrid	Spain	Shri Sanjeeva Babu, TS (Int.)
41. EI	Manila	Philippines	Shri V. K. Sachdeva, FS
42. EI	Maputo	Mozambique	Shri N. V. Vijay Kumar, Attache
43. EI	Mexico City	Mexico	Shri N. Pardeshi, TS
44. EI	Minsk	Belarus	Shri P. S. Bedi, Attache (PS)
45. EI	Muscat	Oman	Shri Surjit Singh, FS
46. EI	Oslo	Norway	Shri R. L. Chumber, Coun.
47. EI	Panama	Panama	Shri S. Tripathi, Couns.
48. EI	Phnom Penh	Cambodia	Shri N. K. Saxena, FS
49. EI	Prague	Czech Republic	Shri D. S. Bhatia, Coun.
50. EI	Pretoria	South Africa	Shri T. Ahmad, DHC
51. EI	Pyongyang	Korea (North)	Shri S. Kipgen, Amb.
52. EI	Rabat	Morocco	Shri Y. C. Pant, FS
53. EI	Riyadh	Saudi Arabia	Shri S. Kohli, SS
54. EI	Sana'a	Yemen	Shri P. M. Meena, FS
55. EI	Santiago	Chile	Shri P. D. Mamgin, Attache
56. EI	Seoul	Korea (South)	Shri G. S. Khora, Coun.
57. EI	Sofia	Bulgaria	Shri P. J. Mann, SS
58. EI	Stockholm	Sweden	Shri Satbir Singh, FS
59. EI	Tel Aviv	Israel	Shri V. Gupta, Counsellor
60. EI	The Hague	Netherlands	Shri E. Martin, SS
61. EI	Thimphu	Bhutan	Shri T.C.A. Raghavan, FS
62. EI	Tokyo	Japan	Miss Neera Deshpande, TS
63. EI	Tripoli	Libya	Shri A.W. Azmi, FS (Int.)
64. EI	Tunis	Tunisia	Shri Nigam Prakash, Amb.
65. EI	Ulan Bator	Mongolia	Shri Sonam Wangchuk, PS
66. EI	Vienna	Austria	Shri A. M. Gondane, FS
67. EI	Vientiane	Laos	Shri J. R. Dugh, C.d'A.
68. EI	Warsaw	Poland	Shri Pradcep Singh, FS
69. EI	Washington	U.S.A.	Shri Malay Mishra, Couns.

HIGH COMMISSIONS OF INDIA

1. HCI Accra	Ghana	Shri Vikrant Rattan, Attache
2. HCI Bander Seri Begawan	Brunei	Shri Daya Nand, Attache
3. HCI Canberra	Australia	Shri V. S. Verma, DHC
4. HCI Colombo	Sri Lanka	Shri R. K. Tyagi, FS
5. HCI Dar-es-Salaam	Tanzania	Shri I. P. Mohanan, SS
6. HCI Gabarone	Botswana	Shri P. K. Bhutiani, FS
7. HCI Harare	Zimbabwe	Shri Butshikan Singh, DHC
8. HCI Islamabad	Pakistan	Shri N. Parathasarathi, FS
9. HCI Kampala	Uganda	Shri Ramesh Chander, FS
10. HCI Kingston	Jamaica	Shri V. B. Soni, HC
11. HCI Kuala Lumpur	Malaysia	Shri S. Swaminathan, Couns.
12. HCI Lagos	Nigeria	Smt. R. L. Lokesh, FS
13. HCI Lusaka	Zambia	Shri O. P. Bajaj, SS
14. HCI Mahe	Seychelles	Shri S. M. Desalphine, FS
15. HCI Male	Maldives	Shri A. R. Radhakrishnan, Attache (Admn.)
16. HCI Malta	Malta	Shri T. L. Goel, HC
17. HCI Nairobi	Kenya	Shri Ramesh Bhat, Attache
18. HCI Nicosia	Cyprus	Shri I. C. Sawhney, FS
19. HCI Ottawa	Canada	Shri V. N. Mathur, Coun.
20. HCI Port of Spain	Trinidad and Tobago	Shri B. N. Goyal, SS
21. HCI Singapore	Singapore	Shri Y. P. Kumar, FS
22. HCI Wellington	New Zealand	Shri M. P. Gavai, SS
23. HCI Windhoek	Namibia	Shri M. G. Singh, SS

CONSULATE GENERALS OF INDIA

1. CGI Birmingham	U.K.	Shri R. D. Sagar, Consul.
2. CGI Chiangmai	Thailand	Shri R. William, CG
3. CGI Chicago	U.S.A.	Shri A. Singh, Consul. (Des)
4. CGI Dubai	U.A.E.	Shri G. K. Mehta, Consul.
5. CGI Durban	South Africa	Shri V. Lata Reddy, CG
6. CGI Frankfurt	Germany	Shri J. K. Sharma, V. Consul.
7. CGI Hamburg	Germany	Shri B. K. Kapoor, V. Consul.
8. CGI Ho-Chi-Minh-City	Vietnam	Shri R. Dayakar, CG

9. CGI Istanbul	Turkey	Shri G. P. Isser, CG
10. CGI Jeddah	Saudi Arabia	Shri K. Kondayya, Consul.
11. CGI Johannesburg	South Africa	Shri H. K. Bhasin, CG
12. CGI Karachi	Pakistan	Shri Rajiv Dogra, CG
13. CGI Medan	Indonesia	Shri C. Rommel, CG
14. CGI Milan	Italy	Shri K. Ashokan, V. Con.
15. CGI Odessa	Ukraine	CG (Designate)
16. CGI Osaka-Kobe	Japan	Shri I. V. Chopra, CG
17. CGI Port Said	Egypt	Shri R. P. Sinha, Actg. CG
18. CGI Reunion Islands	France	Shri O. P. Goel, CG
19. CGI San Francisco	U.S.A.	Shri Ravi Thapar, Consul.
20. CGI Shanghai	China	Shri Manpreet Vohra, Cons.
21. CGI Shiraz	Iran	Shri G. B. Rao, CG
22. CGI St. Petersburg	Russia	Shri R. Rajagopalan, CG
23. CGI Sydney	Australia	Shri R. Krishnanath, Consul.
24. CGI Toronto	Canada	Shri A. C. Kumar, Con.
25. CGI Vancouver	Canada	Shri Kulbir Krishan, Con.
26. CGI Vladivostok	Russia	Shri Vishnu Prakash, CG
27. CGI Zahidan	Iran	Shri V. K. Munshi, CG
28. CGI Zanzibar	Tanzania	Shri P. Mukhopadhyay, CG

ASSISTANT HIGH COMMISSIONS

1. AHCI Chittagong	Bangladesh	Shri V. Vadivelu, FS
2. AHCI Kandy	Sri Lanka	Shri R. Sivaraman, SS
3. AHCI Rajshahi	Bangladesh	Shri T. O. Bora, Attache

COMMISSIONS

1. CI Hong Kong	Hong Kong	Shri A. B. Ray Choudhuri
2. CI Mombasa	Kenya	Shri J. M. Sharma, Asstt. Comm.

SPECIAL MISSIONS

1. Geneva (PMI)	Switzerland	Shri A. S. Gill, TS (LT)
2. New York (PMI)	U.S.A.	Shri R. Viswanathan, Coun.
3. Phuntsholing (LO)	Bhutan	Handled by EI Thimpu

* * * * *

Total number of Missions in this category = 128

**PROPOSED FORMAT FOR DEMANDS FOR GRANTS OF
THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

REVENUE SECTION

MAJOR HEAD "2052"

A. Secretariat – General Services

A.1 Secretariat

- A.1(1) Salaries
- A.1(2) Wages
- A.1(3) Overtime Allowance
- A.1(4) Travel Expenses
- A.1(5) Office Expenses
- A.1(6) Payments for Professional and Special Services
- A.1(7) Publicity Expenses
- A.1(8) Publications
- A.1(9) Subsidy to Canteens
- A.1(10) Rents, Rates and Taxes / Royalty & Maintenance

Total of A.1

A.2 Other Expenditure

- A.2(1) Departmental Canteens

Total of A.2

TOTAL OF MAJOR HEAD "2052"

MAJOR HEAD "2061"

B. External Affairs

B.1 Passport & Emigration

- B.1(1) Central Passport & Emigration Organisation
- B.1(1) (1) Salaries
- B.1(1) (2) Wages
- B.1(1) (3) Overtime Allowance
- B.1(1) (4) Travel Expenses
- B.1(1) (5) Office Expenses
- B.1(1) (6) Rents, Rates & Taxes / Royalty etc.
- B.1(1) (7) Payments for Professional and Special Services

Total of B.1

B.2 Training

- B.2(1) Foreign Service Institute
- B.2(1) (1) Salaries
- B.2(1) (2) Wages
- B.2(1) (3) Office Expenses

Total of B.2**B.3 Embassies and Missions**

- B.3(1) Salaries
- B.3(2) Wages
- B.3(3) Overtime Allowances
- B.3(4) Travel Expenses
- B.3(5) Office Expenses
- B.3(6) Publicity Expenses
- B.3(7) Rents, Rates and Taxes / Royalty etc.
- B.3(8) Other Charges

Total of B.3**B.4 Special Diplomatic Expenditure**

- B.4(1) Discretionary Expenditure
- B.4(1) (1) Other Charges

Total of B.4**B.5 International Conferences/Meetings**

- B.5(1) International Conferences/Meetings held in India

Total of B.5**B.6 Entertainment Charges**

- B.6(1) Entertainment of Dignitaries
- B.6(1) (1) Hospitality Expenses

Total of B.6**B.7 International Cooperation**

- B.7(1) United Nations
- B.7(1) (1) Contribution to UN Organisations
- B.7(2) Commonwealth
- B.7(2) (1) Contribution to Commonwealth Secretariat
- B.7(2) (2) Contribution to Commonwealth Foundation

- B.7(3) SAARC Secretariat
- B.7(3) (1) Contribution to SAARC Secretariat
- B.7(4) Other International Organisations
- B.7(4) (1) Contribution to Other International Organisations

Total of B.7

B.8 Other Expenditures

- B.8(1) Special Delegations
- B.8(1) (1) High Level Visits Abroad
- 8.8(1) (2) Other Special Delegations

- B.8(2) Expenditure on Haj
- B.8(2) (1) Haj Goodwill Delegation
- B.8(2) (2) Other Expenditure on Haj

- B.8(3) Expenditure related to other Pilgrimages Abroad
- B.8(3) (1) Mansarover Pilgrimage
- B.8(3) (2) Pilgrimage to Shrines in Pakistan
- B.8(3) (3) Other Pilgrimages

- B.8(4) Demarcation of Boundaries
- B.8(4) (1) Other Charges

- B.8(5) External Affairs Hostels
- B.8(5) (1) External Affairs Hostel (Old)
- B.8(5) (2) External Affairs Hostel (New)

- B.8(6) Grants-in-Aid
- B.8(6) (1) Indian Council for Cultural Relations
- B.8(6) (2) Indian Society of International Law
- B.8(6) (3) Indian Council of Social Science Research
- B.8(6) (4) Society for Research & Information System for Non-Aligned and other Developing Countries
- B.8(6) (5) Indian Council of World Affairs
- B.8(6) (6) Indian Council for Research on Int'l Economic Relations
- B.8(6) (7) Bharat Bangladesh Maitri Samiti
- B.8(6) (8) Centre for Advanced Studies of India at University of Pennsylvania
- B.8(6) (9) Institute of Chinese Studies
- B.8(6) (10) Indian Federation of UN Associations
- B.8(6) (11) Sri Lanka Estate Workers Association
- B.8(6) (12) ICCR & IFUNA for Organising UN Day Function

B.8(7) Special Programmes

- B.8(7) (1) India-China and India East-Asia Distinguished Visitors Programme
- B.8(7) (2) India-USA Distinguished Visitors Programme
- B.8(7) (3) Indo-German Consultative Group
- B.8(7) (4) Expenditure on Holding Seminars & Studies
- B.8(7) (5) Nehru Awards

B.8(8) Special Grants to Missions

- B.8(8) (1) Propagation of Hindi through Missions abroad
- B.8(8) (2) Republic Day & Independence Day Celebrations in Missions abroad
- B.8(8) (3) Grants to Recreational Clubs in Missions

B.8(9) Other Schemes

- B.8(9) (1) Repatriation of Indian Destitutes
- B.8(9) (2) Evacuation of Indians due to War/Civil Disturbance
- B.8(9) (3) Medical Treatment of Afghan Patients
- B.8(9) (4) Treatment of Nepalese Patients in Indian Hospitals
- B.8(9) (5) Despatch of 'Sainik Samachar' to Nepal
- B.8(9) (6) Other items

Total of B.8

TOTAL OF "2061"

MAJOR HEAD "2075" (No Change)

- C. Miscellaneous General Services (No Change)
- C.1 Loss by Exchange
- C.1(1) Other Charges

TOTAL OF "2075"

MAJOR HEAD "3052" (No Change)**MAJOR HEAD "3053" (No Change)****MAJOR HEAD "3605" (NC)****F. Technical & Economic Cooperation with Other Countries**

- F.1 Cooperation with other Countries
- F.1(1) Bilateral Cooperation Programmes

- F.1(1) (1) Aid to Bangladesh
- F.1(1) (2) Aid to Bhutan
- F.1(1) (3) Aid to Nepal
- F.1(1) (4) Sri Lanka – Rehabilitation Grant
- F.1(1) (5) Sri Lanka – Other Aid Programmes
- F.1(1) (6) Aid to Maldives
- F.1(1) (7) Aid to Myanmar
- F.1(1) (8) Aid to Cambodia
- F.1(1) (9) Aid to Other Developing Countries
- F.1(1) (10) Aid for Disaster Relief

F.1(2) Multi-lateral Cooperation Programmes

- F.1(2) (1) ITEC Programmes
- F.1(2) (2) SAARC Programmes
- F.1(2) (3) SCAAP Programme
- F.1(2) (4) Special Volunteer Programme
- F.1(2) (5) Aid under AFRICA Fund
- F.1(2) (6) Grant-in-Aid to International and Other Aid Funds

Total of Major Head “3605”

TOTAL - REVENUE SECTION

CAPITAL SECTION

MAJOR HEAD “4059” (No Change)

MAJOR HEAD “4216” (No Change)

MAJOR HEAD “7453” (No Change)

MAJOR HEAD “7605” (No Change)

MAJOR HEAD “7615” (No Change)

TOTAL - CAPITAL SECTION (No Change in Capital Section)

TOTAL – GRANT NO. 24