

Expenditure in Foreign Exchange on Minister's Visit Abroad

4000. SHRI SHIBU SOREN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether he went to Geneva in the month of June, 1981;

(b) what is the detailed description of the same;

(c) how much expenditure was incurred on this trip in Indian and foreign currency;

(d) whether he made foreign visits to some other countries also during 1980-81 and what are the total expenses incurred in foreign exchange; and

(e) whether Government are taking some steps to improve the diminishing foreign exchange position?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): Yes, Sir.

(b) Department of Tourism have operating for some years now integrated programmes between Air India and the Regional Offices of the D. G. (Tourism) abroad under the name of "Operations Europe, Australasia, etc." for promoting international tourism to India. Periodical reviews of the performance of these schemes are undertaken. The Minister for Tourism & Civil Aviation held one such review meeting on 'Operation Europe' in Geneva on 15-6-81. The Swiss Government hosted the Minister on 16th and 17th June, 1981 and showed him the tourist facilities developed by that country for promotion of tourism.

(c) Rs. 27,327 in Indian currency and foreign exchange Rs. 16,632 (estimated).

(d) Yes, Sir. The total foreign exchange involved on the visits abroad in the year 1980-81 was Rs. 10,793 (estimated).

(e) Tourism is one of the major earners of foreign exchange for the country and hence every effort is made to increase international tourist traffic to India, so as to increase our foreign exchange earnings. The review of "Operation" is part of our effort to build up tourist traffic to India.

12 hrs.

RE. QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (नई दिल्ली): अध्यक्ष जी, हमारे प्रिविलेज के मरेशन का क्या हुआ? राज्य सभा के चैयरमेन ने, जिन सदस्यों ने प्रिविलेज मोशन दिया था, उन्हें अपनी बात कहने का मौका दिया है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मेरी बात सुनिए।

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): There is another motion against Shri Arun Shourie.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अरुन शौरी का तो बाद में लगे। पहले उनकी एक चीज आ गई है मेरे पास कल।

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE (Rajapur): When do we expect that?

श्री जार्ज फर्नांडीज : उस पर आप बहस करने दीजिए हम लोगों को।

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL (Jaipur): How can there be two standards— one in Rajya Sabha and one in Lok Sabha.

MR. SPEAKER: That is Rajya Sabha. This is Lok Sabha.

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE: Why not follow the pattern of Rajya Sabha?

In Rajya Sabha, Members are allowed to make their statements.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: How can there be two standards? (*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Why not follow the procedure of Rajya Sabha?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : नहीं ।

श्री जार्ज फर्नांडीज : आप इसको भेज दीजिए प्रिविलेज कमेटी को ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं देखूंगा। आपने जो चीज कही थी, वह मेरे पास है कल रात पहुंच गई है। मैं उसको देख कर कहूंगा।

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Sir, on a point of order under....

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : अध्यक्ष जी हमको मौफा दीजिए हम प्राइमाफेसी केस बना सकें।.... (व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER: What is your point of order, Mr. Bosu?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Under Rule 376.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: The Finance Minister has been called a petty liar and this is a contempt of the House....

MR. SPEAKER: There is no contempt....

(*Interruptions*)**

MR. SPEAKER: What he is saying now is without my permission. It is not going on record.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: There are two things. One is about Mr. Shourie. The other is about Mr. Venkataraman. You decide one way or the other.

MR. SPEAKER: Arun Shourie will come afterwards when we decide this.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: In which case, you must give us a chance to establish that the Finance Minister had misled the House. He did. He knows that he did....

MR. SPEAKER: Have you read the rules?

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : मेरा निवेदन है कि आप रुक देखिए।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैंने देखा है मैंने पढ़ा है।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : अध्यक्ष, जी, रुक में कहीं नहीं लिखा है कि आप अपने कमरे में फैसला करेंगे।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : बिल्कुल लिखा हुआ है रूल में।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : उसमें यह कहीं नहीं लिखा हुआ है कि हमें चैम्बर में यह तय करना है। हमें यह साबित करना है कि फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर ने इंटेंशनली मिसलीड किया है।

MR. SPEAKER: I have to satisfy myself, Sir.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: You give us a hearing.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Barot. (*Interruptions*) I am doing my job.

(**) Not recorded.