

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Teams of experts appointed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research to review the performance of the Indian Veterinary Research Institute have recommended that the research programmes of the production divisions of the Institute may be reoriented to solve animal health problems.

Abolishing of Short Term Tourist Visa

10373. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an official team visited Britain in the first week of May, 1990 to discuss the possibility of abolishing short term tourism visa to India;

(b) if so, the outcome of the discussion held; and

(c) the maximum period of stay to be allowed in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) An official team visited Britain to help the Indian High Commission to streamline the procedures for the grant of visas to foreigners and nationalize the visa regime. There is, however, no proposal to abolish short term tourist Visa to visit India.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Introduction of Five Year Multi Entry Visa

10374. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has unilaterally introduced a five year multi-entry visa for all foreigners of Indian origin; and

(b) if so, the details of the scheme and the date from which it has been made applicable?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir. However, this facility is not applicable to persons of Indian origin who are nationals of Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

(b) Foreign nationals of Indian origin can under the liberalised visa policy obtain a five year visa with multiple entry facility subject to the usual checks. Such a facility will also be extended to the spouse of the foreigner concerned and children. In case the foreigner intends to stay in India for a continuous period exceeding six months, he/she has to register with the Foreigners Regional Registration Officer concerned. The liberalised policy has come into operation with effect from 17.4.90.

Seizure of Cash in Delhi

10375. SHRI RAM SAGAR (Saidupur): Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Briefcase with cash seized" appearing in the Indian Express of 4 May, 1990;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the headway made in the investigation of the case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). On May 1, 1990, a briefcase containing Rs. 4 Lakhs was seized from one Bhajan Singh and the Income-Tax Authorities informed, who have since initiated action on it. At the instance of the Metropolitan Magistrate, the entire amount was returned on 8.5.90 to Shri Bhajan Singh on superdari.

Push Button Telephone Facility In Telephone Exchange in Delhi

10376. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently decided to extend the facility of push telephone to the subscribers without any fee therefor;

(b) if so, the likely date by which this facility will be made available; and

(c) whether this replacement facility will be available in all the telephone exchanges in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). This facility is already available in all the exchanges in the country and the rotary instruments will be replaced with push-button instruments gradually.

Constitution of Postal Advisory Committee

10377. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal or constitution of Postal Advisory Committees at the level of the Divisional Superintendents of Post Offices where in Post Office Saving Banks holders will be associated,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is also any proposal to have such an advisory body at the national level; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) The proposal for Constitution of such a committee has already been considered by the Department. Advisory Committees at the level of the Divisional superintendents of Post Offices wherein Post Office saving Bank holders will be associated were orders to be constituted by the Department vide its memo No. 39/88-SB. III Dated 5.12.88.

(b) Details are even below:

1. Chairman: Superintendent Senior Superthtender of Post Offices the Posts Division.
2. 12 members of the Committee. Out of these, 10 members will be post of the saving Bank Account Holders in the Head Post Offices and sub-offices of the Division. The remaining five will be chosen in consultation with District authorities representing various interest groups, like agricultural community social services, teaching community business community, district administration etc.

The tenure will be of 2 years. The Committee will meet twice a year at an interval of 6 months.

(c) The proposal for the constitution of such and advisory body was also considered by the Department and orders were issued for its constitution vide memo No. 93-1/89 SB date 15.6.89.