

12-13 HRS.

**CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO
S.Q NO. 539 RE. MPs VISITS
ABROAD**

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): In reply to the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 539, dated the 19th August, 1968, a statement had been laid on the Table of the House detailing the names of the Members of Parliament who had proceeded abroad during the period from February to July, 1968. This list was compiled on the basis of clearances advised by the Ministry of Finance to the Reserve Bank and it was assumed that such clearances would have been availed of by the Members concerned. "Unless Members of Parliament themselves write to the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry would not know whether a particular visit for which clearance had been given did in fact take place or not". It has been brought to my notice that Shri P. Venkatasubbiah whose name appears against Sl. No. 45 of the statement did not undertake the visit. His name is, therefore, to be deleted from the statement. Sl. No. 43 pertains to Shri B. P. Maurya who had ceased to be a Member of Parliament and hence his name too has to be deleted from the statement.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBIAH (Nandyal): On a point of personal clarification. He has said this about Members who have not availed of this, they have informed. As a matter of fact, I never knew this till I saw it in the written answer.

MR. SPEAKER: He has himself clarified the position.

श्री जार्ज फरनेन्डीस (बम्बई दक्षिण) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मन्त्री महोदय के स्टेट-मेन्ट पर मुझे एक प्रश्न पूछना है। एक बात तो यह कि जब उत्तर आया था तब मैं ने आपको पत्र लिखकर बताया था कि श्री मौर्य लोकसभा के सदस्य

नहीं थे और दूसरे मैं ने श्री राजनारायण का नाम लिया, जोकि राज्य सभा के सदस्य हैं, उनका नाम भी लिया गया था कि वे पूर्व जर्मनी गए तो मन्त्री महोदय ने स्टेटमेन्ट में ऐसा लिखा है वह गलत है, वे बिदेश नहीं गए हैं।

MR. SPEAKER: It is a mistake, that is why it is corrected.

श्री जार्ज फरनेन्डीस : वह गए ही नहीं। मैं आपके जरिए से मन्त्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जब वे खुलासा करने के लिए सामने आए तब, इसमें जो गलतियाँ थीं वह सुधारी क्यों नहीं गई? और श्री राज नारायण ने दौरा नहीं किया, उसका खुलासा क्यों नहीं किया? मन्त्री महोदय का जो बयान है उसमें वे कहते हैं :

"Unless Members of Parliament themselves write to the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry would not know whether a particular visit for which clearance had been given did in fact take place or not."

तो अब मन्त्री महोदय मुझे बतायें कि जब मौर्य साहब सवा साल से लोक-सभा के सदस्य ही नहीं हैं तो फिर उनका नाम इसके अन्दर आया ही कैसे और आप क्यों अपने डिपार्टमेन्ट की गलती स्वीकार करने के लिए तैयार नहीं हैं।

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Raj Narain is an Hon. Member of the other House; he may raise it himself.

श्री जार्ज फरनेन्डीस : श्री राजनारायण के बारे में खुलासा हो। दूसरे सदन में रहते हुए फिर उनको कैसे पता चल सकेगा?

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: I shall find out about that also. If it is a mistake it will be corrected. What has happened is that the External Affairs Ministry receives the list of persons recommended by them and

they will inform the Reserve Bank. Afterwards, whoever has been taken and whoever has not gone, that is not seen. I have warned my ministry that they must not depend on this and they must find it out themselves.

MR. SPEAKER: The Hon. Deputy Prime Minister may also find out about Shri Raj Narain and inform the House.

12-16 HRS.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION BY
MEMBER

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU (Diamond Harbour): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Under Rule 357 I wish to make a personal statement on what Dr. Ram Subhag Singh, Minister for Parliamentary Affairs stated while replying to Short Notice Question No. 7 on 20-8-1968. In that he has made certain baseless allegations which are in the main as follows:

(1) He said "you have asked that to be sent to the Chairman of the House Committee".

Actually the fact of the case is that I wrote a letter to the Chairman of the House Committee for the allotment of adequate space for the living of myself and my family—copies of which were sent to Minister of Works, Housing and Supply and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.

(2) He said "you come and talk that Members' salary should be increased".

I never asked anybody for rise in salaries of the Members. I strongly oppose this move as you will find in the proceedings of both informal and formal Committees that were set up for this purpose. On the contrary what I had in mind was that the Members even could go to the extent of offering a token cut as a gesture to the difficult financial position that common man of the country is undergoing today.

(3) He said "Daily you call on me; every day you are calling on me for some concession".

As a Member of Parliament and as a whip of my party, I go to many Ministers and Members and Party Whips for work but I do not say that I go to him more often. I have never asked for any concession which is for individual in character. In fact, during the last 1½ months, I have gone to him only once.

MR. SPEAKER: He is a very sorry that the press has given a lot of publicity to it. I am sure the press will give publicity also to the statement he has made now.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH): Whatever I said, I stick to it.

SHRI RANGA (Srikakulam): I sincerely trust that not only this minister, but other ministers also would be careful not to make such observations about Members of Parliament.

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH: Whatever I said is not incorrect. I adhere to my view.

SHRI RANGA: Does he say that he is sticking to what he said?

MR. SPEAKER: About this case, he says he is sticking to what he said; not generally.

SHRI RANGA: In that case, I move that this question should be sent to the committee of privileges. This is a very serious matter. I would like you to keep it before you.

MR. SPEAKER: He can write to me.

SHRI RANGA: Here and now I have got a right to say this. Charges have been made against an Hon. Member by a Minister. Objection has been taken by that member and the Minister is not prepared to say that he is extremely sorry.