

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन : आप कहें, तो मैं पढ़ दूँ।  
लोदरा, अनाखोल, मौयानी।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : छोड़िए।

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : They can give it in writing.

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन : दूसरा जो माननीय सदस्य ने प्रश्न किया है, मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि भारत सरकार की जो रेलवे की जो यह पालिसी है सब जोनल रेलवेज में यही पद्धति लागू की गई है।

श्री अहमद मोहम्मद पटेल : मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि चेयरमैन, रेलवे बोर्ड ने क्या यह डिजीजन लिया है या इंस्ट्रक्शन्स दी हैं कि वे रेलवे स्टेशन जहाँ गाड़ियाँ 10 मिनट से कम रुकती हैं, वहाँ लोडिंग या अनलोडिंग न की जाये और जो इस वक्त है उस को बन्द किया जाये। यह डिजीजन सिर्फ वेस्टर्न रेलवे के लिये लिया गया है या सब रेलवेज के लिये लिया गया है और इस डिजीजन को लेने का मकसद क्या है। इससे रेलवे की आय में क्या कोई कटौती हुई है? और जिस मकसद के लिये यह किया गया है, वह वह मकसद हल हुआ है या नहीं?

रेल मंत्री (श्री प्रकाश चन्द्र सेठी) : मैं माननीय सदस्य को यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि असल में नेशनल ट्रांसपोर्ट पालिसी कमेटी 1980 में बैठी थी और उस कमेटी की रिपोर्ट के आधार पर यह डिजीजन लिया गया है मगर जहाँ जहाँ से भी रिप्रेजेंटेशन आये हैं, उन पर गौर किया है। यह जो डिजीजन है यह केवल वेस्टर्न रेलवे में नहीं लिया है, सब जगह लिया है और जैसा कि मूल उत्तर में बताया गया है कि जहाँ 119 ऐसे स्टेशन बन्द होने वाले थे, उसके मुकाबले में अब केवल 17 स्टेशन बन्द किये हैं। इस से माननीय सदस्य अन्दाजा लगा सकते हैं कि कितने रिप्रेजेंटेशन पर पुनः गौर किया गया है। आईन्दा के लिये भी यही पालिसी है कि जहाँ कहीं कठिनाई है, और जहाँ कहीं से रिप्रेजेंटेशन आयेगा, उस पर सहानुभूति से विचार किया जायेगा और उस स्टेशन को चालू करने के बारे में कोशिश की जायेगी।

श्री अहमद मोहम्मद पटेल : इसका मकसद क्या है?

श्री प्रकाश चन्द्र सेठी : जिन स्टेशनों पर चार-पांच वैगनों का लदान या बुकिंग होती है वहाँ वेगस हॉल्ट करना और इंजिन ले जाना काफी अनइकोनोमिक है। जिन स्टेशनों के चार-पांच किलोमीटर की दूरी पर दूसरे हॉल्ट हैं, ऐसे ही स्टेशनों को बन्द किया गया है। इसके लिये ऐसी पालिसी बनायी गयी है कि इनके बारे में केवल जनरल मैनेजर तय नहीं करेंगे, मिनिस्ट्री से पूछने पर यह तय किया जायेगा।

श्री दीनबन्धु बर्मा : क्या यह बताने का कष्ट करेंगे कि अहमदाबाद से डूंगरपुर के लिये डायरेक्ट गुड्स बुकिंग नहीं होती है जबकि यह इकोनोमिकल्ली वाएबल है?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह प्रश्न इससे ही उठता है।

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन : मान्यवर, अहमदाबाद से डूंगरपुर के लिये बुकिंग नहीं होती है, इसका जवाब मेरे पास नहीं है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : इसका जवाब भिजवा देना।

Passport applications pending in Regional Passport Office, Ahmedabad

\*367. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI :

SHRI MOHAN LAL PATEL :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to lay a statement showing :

(a) the number of applications which were pending in the Regional Passport Office at Ahmedabad as on 1 July, 1981;

(b) the number of new applications received during the year 1981 and the number of passports issued ;

(c) the number of applications rejected and the broad reasons of rejection;

(d) whether it is a fact that there are complaints against the Regional Passport Office, Ahmedabad that they are delaying issuing of passports deliberately; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken for quick disposal of the applications for issue of passports ?

**THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA-RAO) :** (a to e) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

### STATEMENT

(a) The number of applications pending in the Regional Passport Office, Ahmedabad as on 1 July, 1981 was 15, 770.

(b) The number of new applications received during the year 1981 was 71,864 and the number of passports issued during that year was 69,181.

(c) No application for issue of passport was rejected by Regional Passport Office Ahmedabad during the year 1981.

(d) and (e) 47 complaints against Regional Passport Office, Ahmedabad were received during 1981 for delay in issue of passports. However, it was found that there was no deliberate delay in the disposal of the cases. The delay had occurred due to incomplete documents, procedural requirements to obtain clearance and shortage of passport booklets.

Arrangements are being made for supply of additional passport booklets and deputation of additional staff. State Authorities have been requested to promptly sent Police reports.

**SHRI NAVIN RAVANI :** Out of 15,770 pending applications, how many applications have come through the travel agents, why were they pending, when were these applications received by the Passport Office Ahmedabad and when will they be cleared ?

Is it a fact that the Ahmedabad Passport Office gives preference to the applications coming through the travel agents and gives passports on the wrong information. For example, very recently, the passports were issued to notorious smugglers and their associates like Indu, Rekha and Kadar Bhatti. There are many complaints of harassment and corruption and there is

a mixed rate of corruption for issuing passports. Would the Government fix up the shortest time period for issuing passports to avoid corruption ?

**SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO :** When the figure of 11,770 is quoted as the applications pending, this does not mean that the applications have not been processed later. This is as on the 1st July, 1981. Now, one thing which has to be appreciated is that at any given time pending applications would mean that the applications are in different stages of processing. So, it is obvious that these applications have been processed, most of them must have been issued passports by now. Now, we are in 1982. One year ago this had happened. So, the figure of 1st July, 1981 is not a figure that has remained constant. In fact, the answer to (b) very clearly says "the number of applications received during the year 1981 was 71,864 and the number of passports issued during this year was 69,181." So, it will be appreciated that within the period of that one year, more than 72,000 applications were received and 69,000 were processed and completed. So, the progress of work has not been in any way slack and there has not been any inordinate delay. In regard to the statistics about travel agents, I would like to tell the hon. member that we do not maintain any separate statistics in regard to the application received through travel agents. This is the position.

**SHRI NAVIN RAVANI :** Regarding travel agencies, I have told the hon. Minister that on the wrong information the Passport Office of Ahmedabad has issued passports to notorious smugglers like Rekha, Indu and Kadar Bhatti. Have you taken action against them or do you progress to take any action ?

**SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO :** If the hon. member gives me details I would certainly go into it and let him know what the position is.

**SHRI NAVIN RAVANI :** I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether in

view of the pending applications and a large number of unskilled and skilled workers intending to go to the Arabian countries and pilgrims wishing to go to Haj as they have to come to Ahmedabad from different places in Saurashtra, the Government would consider opening another office at Rajkot.

**SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO :** The desirability of opening new offices is always under review. There are already some proposals. If the hon. Member would be kind enough to let me know where he proposes that the offices should be opened we will certainly look into the workload.

**SHRI NAVIN RAVANI :** Rajkot.

**SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO :** We will look into the workload and decide.

**SHRI MOHAN LAL PATEL :** I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that Indian Muslims are experiencing a great difficulty in getting visas from the Pakistani Embassy, and they have to wait for a long time even when their relatives in Pakistan are in a serious condition, whether India has taken up this matters with the Pakistani Government, or whether they are going to take up this matter with the Pakistani Government. What is the number of Pakistanis who are in India whose passports have expired ? What steps have the Government taken or are they going to take against these unauthorised passports ?

**SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO :** It is a big jump from passports to visas.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Yes, Mr. Pandit.

**DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT :** Among the reasons given by the hon. Members for delay and pending passports are, incomplete documents, procedural requirements to obtain clearance, and shortage of passport booklets. This position has been stated by the Government and in the last para, it is mentioned that arrangements are being made for supply of additional passport booklets and deputing of additional

staff, the State authorities have also been requested to promptly send Police reports". These three things have been constantly harassing all the passport offices in giving passports. This reply is being given to be a question which is dated July 1981. That was the situation in July, 1981 and even today the Government still says that they are making arrangements they are giving passport booklets, they are giving additional staff and they are requesting the State Police to give early reports and so on. These have been the constant factors for delay. What action has been taken by the Government as of today ?

**SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO :** These problems have been there but they are not so constant as the hon. member thinks, because in 1978 the number of applications received was 10.46 lakhs. Suddenly in 1979 the number fell to 8.74 lakhs; in 1981 it jumped again to 14.73 lakhs. So there has been so much of fluctuation, that as a result of the changing work load we have had to change the arrangements in regard to the preparation of passports and the issue of passports. Now, the Nasik Press can give us the booklets in a particular number. That particular number suddenly got slashed in 1979, again it was 10 to 60 per cent higher in 1981. So, the Press has to make these arrangements and if arrangements have to be made at such a short notice, naturally there is some dislocation. I am glad to inform the House that all these matters have been sorted out now and not only that we are going to maintain at three or four places banks of booklets from where according to need we could take any number of booklets at short notice and there will be no dislocation. The production of booklets has now been increased from 5,000 to 7,000 per day. Just a few days back we got a report from the Ministry of Finance that they have agreed to do it and therefore, there will difficulty on that score.

With regard to Police reports and other reports in which the State Governments are involved, we are constantly trying to get

these expedited, and I hope there will be a steady improvement in that regard.

Again, in regard to staff, the workload of a particular RPO's office being fluctuating entity we have to see that there is some adjustment in the staff. We are trying to minimise the hardships and also the dislocation but I have to admit this cannot be done one hundred per cent. We are trying to minimise it to the extent possible.

**श्री श्रीम सिंह :** क्या मंत्री महोदय यह निश्चित करने की कृपा करेंगे कि एप्लीकेंट को एक निश्चित पीरियड के अन्दर पासपोर्ट दे दिया जाये और अगर नहीं दिया जाता है तो उसका कारण बताया जाये कि उसको पासपोर्ट क्यों नहीं दिया जा रहा है ?

**श्री पी० वो० नरसिंह राव :** ग्राम तौर पर छः हफ्ते के अन्दर पासपोर्ट दिया जा रहा है । देर जहाँ होती है वह ऐसे मौके पर होती जबकि दरखास्तगार ने अपनी दरखास्त ठीक तौर से भरी न हो या फिर उसके साथ कारेसपांडेंस करनी पड़ती हो, तफ्सील उससे मांगनी पड़ती हो । तब देर होती है । अब उसके लिये हमने यह भी तय किया है, उपाय किया है कि जब दरखास्तगार दरखास्त लेकर आता है तो फौरन उसकी हम सकुटिनी करते हैं और उस में कोई कमी होती है तो बता देते हैं और कह देते हैं कि यह सब ले आओ । जहाँ डाक से दरखास्त आती है वहाँ पर तो डाक से ही उसको लिखना पड़ता है । कारेसपांडेंस करनी पड़ती है तब थोड़ा बहुत विलम्ब हो जाता है ।

\* 370. **श्री हरीश रावत :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) बरेली से काठगोदाम तक बड़ी रेल लाइन बिछाने का कार्य कब से शुरू किया जायेगा, और

(ख) इस कार्य के लिये चालू वित्तीय वर्ष में कुल कितनी धनराशि स्वीकृत की गयी है और इस कार्य के कब तक पूरा होने की संभावना है।

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) :

(a) and (b) The work regarding laying a parallel BG line between Bareilly-Bhojipura and straight conversion between Bhojipura and Kathgodam is an approved one but Planning Commission's clearance is awaited. A preliminary engineering-cum-traffic survey for this work is in progress. After completion of the survey, and receipt and examination of the Survey Report, the work will be taken in the field, subject to clearance by the Planning Commission. A sum of Rs. 20 lakhs has been provided for this work during 1982-83. The target date for completion of this work will be fixed after clearance by the Planning Commission, keeping in view of the availability of funds.

**श्री हरीश रावत :** उत्तर प्रदेश की कितनी एसी लाइनें हैं जिन को ब्राड गेज के रूप में परिवर्तित करने के बारे में प्रिलिमिनरी इंजीनियरिंग सर्वे किया जा रहा है या किया जा चुका है या सर्वे के उपरान्त वे प्लानिंग कमीशन के सामने क्लियरेंस के लिये देश की जा चुकी हैं ।

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन :** जो मैं पहले बता चुका उसके अलावा यू०पी० में ये और लाइनें हैं ।

1. Construction of new BG line from Rampur to New Haldwani.
2. Conversion of Moradabad-Ramnagar MG line into BG.
3. Kashipur-Lalkua MG into BG and Lalkua-New Haldwani Parallel BG line.
4. Bareilly-Bhojipura-Kathgodam.

**श्री हरीश रावत :** उत्तर प्रदेश में इस लाइन के बनवने का मामला बहुत पहले से चल रहा है और सर्वे भी चल रहा है जो अभी तक पूरा नहीं हो पाया है । मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह जो सर्वे चल रहा है यह कब तक पूरा हो जायेगा ?

इसी के साथ साथ जो दूसरी इम्पार्टेंट लाइन है काठगोदाम, पीलीभीत, लखनऊ इसको भी मीटर