

hold, e.g., The President, the Vice-President, Chief Justice, Speaker, Ministers of Union Government and Chief Ministers of State Governments, Members of Parliament and senior Government officers when proceeding abroad on parliamentary or governmental business.

(b) The issue of diplomatic passports is regulated by the rules incorporated in the Passports Rules 1967, notified on the 10th May, 1967, (vide Schedule II, Part I, Item III of the Rules).

(c) A statement containing the names of persons not belonging to the Foreign Service to whom diplomatic passports have been issued after the promulgation of the Passports Ordinance 1967 is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No LT-706/67].

Sikh Pilgrims to Pakistan

*587. Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Atam Das:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee proposed to send one thousand pilgrims to Dehrasahib Gurdwara at Lahore for Guru Arjun Dev's martyrdom day on the 12th June, 1967;

(b) whether Pakistan has not yet given permission to the Indian Sikh pilgrim jatha to visit Lahore, though an application was made three months ago; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to expedite the matter?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Pakistan Government conveyed their permission only on the 6th June, 1967 even though the pilgrims were scheduled to depart for Pakistan on the 9th June, 1967. We have asked the Pakistan High Commission in Delhi to urge their Govern-

ment to grant permission to Indian pilgrim-jathas, well in advance, in future.

Commercial Broadcast on A.I.R.

*588. Shri Nambiar:
Shri C. K. Chakrapani:
Shri Mohammad Ismail:
Shri P. Gopalan:
Shri E. K. Nayanar:
Shri Yajna Datt Sharma:

Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised the rates for advertising on radio;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the press reports that the advertisements would go on the air on the 15th August, 1967 are correct;

(d) whether the scheme for introducing Commercials on A.I.R. is ready; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri K. K. Shah): (a) and (b). The rates are being finalised.

(c) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to start commercial broadcasting from 15th August next.

(d) and (e). Details of the scheme are being worked out.

Foreign Minister's talks with Heads of Missions of Arab States

*589. Shri Parthasarathy:
Shri B. N. Shastri:
Shri Y. A. Prasad:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had talks with the Heads of Missions of 10 Arab States on the 31st May, 1967; and