

(ख) इस प्रकार का कोई भी मामला सरकार के ध्यान में नहीं आया है।

(ग) ऊपर (ख) में दिए गए उत्तर को दृष्टि में रखते हुए प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Arrest of two Birla Employees in Ethiopia

2928. SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the reported arrest in Ethiopia of two Birla employees, one a General Manager and the other a former Plant Manager of the Bahar Dar Textile Company, on a criminal charge of "unlawful enrichment" ;

(b) if so, the present position of the case ;

(c) whether the said Company, of which Birlas are the Managing agents, regularly repatriates to India the remuneration due on such agents and if so, the amounts so far remitted ; and

(d) whether Government have any means of ensuring that the image of India does not suffer on account of manipulations by such companies abroad ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) The General Manager of Bahar Dar Textile Mills in Ethiopia of which Messers Birla A. C. Switzerland, were the Managing Agents, were arrested in October, 1969 on charges which included misappropriation of funds and goods, concealment of losses and attempts to bribe the auditors.

(b) These persons have since been released. A settlement was reached in August, 1970, between Birla A. C. Switzerland, the Ethiopian authorities and the Board of Directors of the Textile Mills. The agreement exonerates Birla A. C., Switzerland, the Managing Agents, but requires them to make certain payments to the Ethiopian Government as the conduct of their employees had been found to be irregular.

(c) Messrs. Birla A. C. Switzerland, is a company registered in Switzerland, and repatriation to India of their remuneration as Managing Agents of the Ethiopian Company does not arise.

(d) Close scrutiny is exercised to this end before leave is granted to export capital from India for the formation of companies abroad, but the Hon'ble Member will appreciate that Government cannot be held accountable for every act of the employees of such companies in third countries.

Opposition by India to Representation of Cambodia by Sihanouk in the Lusaka Conference

2929. SHRI A. K. NAYANAR : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the representatives of the Government of India opposed the representation of Sihanouk, Cambodian Government in exile in the Lusaka non-aligned countries conference which was held in September ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Refusal of Passport to Secretary of Delhi Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee

2930. SHRIMATI NIRLEP KAUR : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Secretary, of Delhi Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee had applied for a passport to visit Pakistan and the permission was refused ;

(b) whether his earlier passport was also impounded ; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Sir, One Jathedar Santokh Singh, a Delhi man, who is evidently also the Secretary of Delhi Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee, had applied for an endorsement for Pakistan on his passport in February, 1970. While the matter was being examined, a report was received from the police authorities that some cases were pending against him in criminal courts. Jathedar Santokh Singh was, therefore, not granted an endorsement for Pakistan; and, simultaneously, his passport was impounded under Section 10 (3) (e) of the Passports Act, 1967.

(b) and (c). Jathedar Santokh Singh's passport impounded earlier was the same as referred to at (a) above. This passport was issued to him in May, 1969, valid upto May 1972. On the earlier occasion (in November, 1969), also his passport had been impounded under Section 10 (3) (e) of the Passports Act; but it was restored to him in December, 1969, when the case previously pending against him was withdrawn.

Drilling in Punjab for Locating Oil and Gases

2931. SHRIMATI NIRLEP KAUR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission had started drilling work in Punjab to locate oil and gases ;

(b) whether the drilling had started on the report of some Russian and Rumanian experts who had strongly recommended the drilling of these areas ;

(c) whether the drilling was done only for a short period and then the entire equipment was transferred to Gujarat ;

(d) whether an American Firm had offered free drilling of these areas and had suggested that they will take some share on international pattern only if they succeeded in locating the gases and oil ; and

(e) if so, the reasons for turning down this offer and diverting the equipment from Punjab to Gujarat.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : (a) to (c). On the recommendation of a team of Russian experts, drilling in Punjab was undertaken and the first well was spudded in at Jawalamukhi on 1.4.1957. Drilling in Punjab continued upto December 1966. A total of 3 deep rigs and 4 structural rigs were in operation. Out of these seven, only 2 structural rigs were transferred to Gujarat.

(d) No.

(e) Does not arise.

Prime Minister's Meeting with President of Pakistan in New York

2932. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister had a meeting with President Yahya Khan during her visit to U. N. O. in October, 1970 ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

चीन द्वारा भूटान के भू प्रवेश पर अधिकार कर लेना

2933. श्री बाल्मीकि चौधरी : क्या वैदेशिक-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि चीन ने भूटान के एक भाग पर बलपूर्वक अधिकार कर लिया है ;