

related to Bengal and Assam and I thought that I might give more chance to people from Bengal and Assam. When there are questions relating to UP, I try to call Members from UP..... (Interruption) I always take care to see that the hon. Members who are more interested in the Question should be allowed. But if you think that it is a question of right party-wise, you have it. I propose that the average time that a Question should take should be 5 to 10 minutes. Usually, what happens is that the first two Questions take more than half an hour. Then, you resent saying, "What about other Questions? And you come to my chamber and ask, "What about my Question?" I have to incur many hon. Members' displeasure. I was much a more happier gentleman when I sat there. After I have come here, I am losing many good friends like Mr. Banerjee and others.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : I have no grouse against you, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : On the very first day, I swore before God that I will discharge my duties honestly with malice towards none. And I will stick to it. When I hasten through a Question, it is because I want other Questions also to get time. If you are unhappy over it, I simply cannot help it. Now, the Question Hour is over.

SHRI KARTIK ORAON : The next Question was in my name. My chance is gone for no fault of mine.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Sir, on a point of personal explanation.

My name was mentioned. May I assure you I have no grouse against you? I rise in many seat but that has become a habit with me for 13 years. That is my physical exercise. Why should you mind it? You can ask me to sit down and I sit down. I shall never accuse you. I only try to catch your eye. I have no grouse against you.

MR. SPEAKER : Sometimes I have to dodge people to catch my eye. That is in your interest. I have a personal request to you. When you get up and speak, you

avoid raising your hand or fist or finger towards me. I hope you will not mind.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : I have now decided that henceforth I shall do so.

SHRI GANESH GHOSH : Sir, in view of the importance of this Question regarding migration of refugees from East Pakistan to West Bengal, you may kindly allow another opportunity...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : On this question of exodus of refugees from East Pakistan to West Bengal, I am allowing it later on. I have already admitted that. I hope you will get ample time. My friends from this side had no time to speak and, certainly, they will be given time.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Selection of Correspondents Travelling with Prime Minister on her Domestic Tours

*241. **SHRI BHAJAHARI MAHATO :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Press Information Bureau and the I. F. W. J. are consulted regarding the selection of news organisations and correspondents covering various domestic tours of the Prime Minister ;

(b) the number of newsmen who travelled only one way in the Prime Minister's plane and did not return with the party from their hometowns ;

(c) whether the Prime Minister's Secretariat is guided by the expert advice of the P.I.B. regarding the selection of papers and correspondents ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a), (c) and (d). The Press Information Bureau is in close

touch with the Prime Minister's Secretariat in the selection of news organisations and correspondents to cover the Prime Minister's tours. The question of disregarding the PIB's advice does not arise. The Indian Federation of Working Journalists is not consulted, but the Press Association, which is a representative organisation of correspondents accredited to the Government of India, is generally consulted.

(b) During the period 1.1.1969 to date, five journalists travelled only one way on the onward journey from Delhi with the Prime Minister and did not return with the party. Of these, three were representatives of a foreign TV organisation who travelled from Delhi to Gorakhpur. Two other journalists were the accredited correspondents of a daily newspaper of Madras and a newspaper group of Calcutta who travelled from Delhi to Madras and Calcutta respectively but did not return with the party.

Misuse of Machinery in Gramdan Movement in Bihar

*244. SHRI KARTIK ORAON : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is within the knowledge of the Government that the State Government of Bihar have extended unlawful use of Government machinery in the Gramdan movement of Acharya Vinoba Bhave ;

(b) If so, whether Government had issued any instructions to the State Government in this regard ; and

(c) if not, what action Government would take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) There has not been any unlawful use of Government machinery by the Bihar Government in the Gramdan Movement.

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

Saw Mill at Port Blair, Andamans

*245. SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State-owned Saw Mill at Port Blair in Andamans is running at a loss or gain ;

(b) whether this is the biggest Saw Mill in the whole of Asia ;

(c) whether the timber wealth in the Andaman and Nicobar Groups of Islands provides immense scope for its expansion and opening of new branches in different parts of the Islands, particularly in the new settlement areas ;

(d) if so, whether Government have any scheme to expand Saw Mill industries in that area to provide employment to the settlers and export timber goods to the mainland ; and

(e) whether transport difficulty stands in the way of greater production of qualified timbers to the mainland, and if so, the steps taken by Government to improve transport facilities for the products of the Saw Mill at Port Blair ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) The Government Saw Mill at Port Blair in Andaman is running at loss as per the Trading Accounts.

(b) Statistics about other Saw Mills in Asia are not available.

(c) There is no scope at present for expansion of existing saw mills and opening its new branches in the present working areas. The question of opening new branches in the new areas will be examined, as and when work would be taken up there.