

is, however, held by an officer of the former French Government. He is the senior-most officer among the ex-French Government police officers and has had 28 years' of service.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: May I know if the Government is not experiencing some difficulty because these police officers are not the kind of officers we have in this country and some of their activities lend themselves to allegations of nepotism and that sort of thing?

Shri Dinesh Singh: No, Sir. After the transfer, we are trying to bring the police in the former French establishments in line with the Indian police.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Could we have some idea as to the kind of people who are holding these very high offices in the police establishments there?

Shri Dinesh Singh: Most of these posts—in fact, all of them except the particular one I mentioned—are held by officers of the Indian police who are on deputation.

Shri Daji: May I know how long it will take to completely Indianise the police officers of this region?

Shri Dinesh Singh: It is Indianised. This particular gentleman I mentioned, who was formerly of the French police, is also an Indian.

Shri Nambiar: In view of the fact that the population of Pondicherry and other connected places is only 4 lakhs, is it necessary to have an officer of the rank of Inspector-General of Police in such a small place?

Shri Dinesh Singh: The Inspector-General of Police in Pondicherry is of the rank of Superintendent of India.

Two Indian Nationals kidnapped by Pakistanis

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*785. { **Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri:**
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri P. K. Deo:
Shri H. P. Chatterjee:
Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to replies given to Starred Question No. 313 and Unstarred Question No. 708 on the 14th August, 1962 and state:

(a) whether Government have been able to secure any information regarding the whereabouts or the fate of Shri Madan Bagchi, Assistant Sub-Inspector of Police and Shri Sasthi Charan Ghosh, member of the West Bengal National Volunteer Force who were over-powered and forcibly kidnapped from Indian territory by armed Pakistani nationals supported by East Pakistan Riflemen while the two men were on patrol duty at Deonapur, P. S. Raghunathganj, District Murshidabad on the 22nd of July; and

(b) what efforts have been made by Government to secure their early release?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) and (b). A reply has since been received by the District Magistrate, Murshidabad from the Deputy Commissioner Rajshahi (East Pakistan), in which it has been alleged that the two officers were arrested by the Pakistan border police, while on Pakistan territory.

The matter is being pursued further by the West Bengal Government and by our Deputy High Commissioner at Dacca.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: Are the Government aware that these two persons who are lodged in Rajshahi jail were put up for trial before a court in Rajshahi on 23rd

August? Have they any information to that effect?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: No, Sir.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: May I know if after the arrest of these officers any attempt was made by our Assistant High Commissioner in Rajshahi, or our Deputy High Commissioner in Dacca to meet them and to find out how they have been kept and what amenities are provided to them in prison?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: It is true that these two officers were lodged in Nawabganj civil jail in the district of Rajshahi. The question of granting monthly allowance to their families is under the consideration of the State Government. All attempts are being made by our Deputy High Commissioner in Dacca to see that these people are kept well.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: Am I to understand that the request of the Deputy High Commissioner of Dacca was refused by the Pakistan Government?

Mr. Speaker: Was our Deputy High Commissioner refused permission? That is his question.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I do not know.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : जिस तरह से कर्नल भट्टाचार्य की गिरफ्तारी के बाद उनके परिवार के निर्वाह की व्यवस्था की गई थी, उसी प्रकार इनके परिवार के निर्वाह की भी कोई व्यवस्था की गई है और यदि की गई है तो उसका क्या विवरण है ?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I have stated that the question of granting allowances to their family is being considered by the State Government.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether it is a fact that recently in

addition to these two persons another two persons were kidnapped by the Pakistanis? May I also know the total number of men who were kidnapped from our side and who are in their custody?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I want separate notice for that.

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know the total number in their custody.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I think we have stated that in reply to other questions; but I cannot give it off-hand.

Shri H. P. Chatterjee: May I know whether it is a fact that such things are normal affairs on the border and people are suffering very much? If so, what does the Government propose to do in the matter?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not think I can answer that. Obviously, the people must necessarily suffer because of such undesirable attacks. We are trying to meet the situation on the border as far as can. Generally speaking, the military are not employed there although the military may be in charge as they are now. The Bengal Government prefer to deal with the border through their own border Police. Lately, the military took over; but even so the actual persons employed, I believe, are the border Police. But, I suppose, it is open to them to use the military too.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: This is a rather serious matter because this is not only about the civilians but about the border police people also who are patrolling the border. Therefore I want to know what our Government is doing in order to get the release of these riflemen who are really a part of the border Police. Without that in future border patrolling itself will become difficult.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Of course, the Government is trying to do everything through diplomatic and

like channels. The Pakistan case is that they trespassed into Pakistan territory and hence were arrested.

Shri Hem Barua: In view of the fact that Pakistan kidnapped ten Indian nationals from Indian territory during the period 1st January to 30th June this year, what steps have Government taken to get them back because Pakistan has all along been treating our protests with open contempt and derision? Do Government propose to take any firm steps by way of tightening security measures or by taking recourse to force whenever the situation demands?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not quite understand what the hon. Member has in mind when he says 'firm steps'. But quite a number of approaches have been made by our representatives at every level.

Shri Hem Barua: I did not mean that. I said that our protests have been treated with open contempt. In view of that, do Government propose to take firm steps by way of tightening security measures and by using force, if necessary?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: As I understand it, the hon. Member means forcible measures involving military force. Military force can be used and is used where such a thing happens. But after a thing has happened, where do you use military force and how do you use it? Either you use it by kidnapping their people here and there.... (*Interruption*).

Shri Hem Barua: Are we to understand that we have left.... (*Interruption*) even the vulnerable points of the frontier undefended?

Mr. Speaker: Can that be answered now? Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: May I know if there was a suggestion from the West Bengal Government when the late Dr. B. C. Roy was living for the grant of additional

funds from the Centre in order to enable the West Bengal Government to organise some kind of a specialised police force or border militia, like the Assam Rifles or the East Pakistan Rifles which Pakistan has on the other side, and whether any decision has been taken on that?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not remember this or any such request. I may mention that many of these incidents occur in areas about which there is dispute. They even occur in areas which have been decided and over which control has not been changed, but which in other ways have been decided that it will change. As soon as firm boundary lines are made, these will become rarer.

Mr. Speaker: The question-hour is over. Short notice question. Shri Shree Narayan Das.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS

(Regarding S. N. Q. No. 11)

Shri Hem Barua: On a point of order, about this short notice question, I have to submit, there was a Calling Attention Notice on this very issue and the Prime Minister was pleased to say that he did not or he could not collect information by them and that he was going to make a statement on that motion. Now, here is a short notice question. Are we to understand that that motion has been ruled out and this has been introduced?

Mr. Speaker: I cannot say offhand what happened to that. I will find that out and enquire. The Member is not present. Therefore, I cannot call upon the Prime Minister to answer this.

Shri Hem Barua: What about the Prime Minister giving an assurance that he is going to make a statement? There was a Calling Attention motion on this.