

**Exodus of Non-Muslims from East Pakistan**

- \*734. { Shri Raghunath Singh:  
Shri Hukam Chand  
Kachhavaiya:  
Shri Sidheshwar Prasad:  
Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda:  
Shri Hem Raj:  
Shri P. C. Borooah:  
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:  
Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:

Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has seen the report of the Committee of Inquiry set up by the Indian Commission of Jurists to inquire into the exodus of non-Muslims from East Pakistan in 1964; and

(b) if so, the action Government propose to take in the matter?

**The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Swaran Singh):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Indian Commission of Jurists is a private body which has made its own study on the subject. The Government of India have recently appointed an official Commission to enquire into the exodus of non-Muslim refugees into India from East Pakistan. However, the report of the Indian Commission of Jurists is being brought to the attention of Indian Missions abroad to enable them to present the true facts and counteract the propaganda being done by Pakistan against India abroad.

**Office of Indian Deputy High Commissioner, Dacca**

\*735. **Shri Hem Barua:** Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a special posse of constabulary has been posted by Pakistan authorities to guard the Office and residence of the Indian Deputy High Commis-

sioner and also the Indian Visa Office in Dacca;

(b) if so, whether Government have ascertained from the Pakistani authorities the reasons compelling them to take this special protective measure; and

(c) the reasons as given by the Pakistani authorities?

**The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Swaran Singh):** (a) Special police pickets were posted at the Office and residence of our Deputy High Commissioner and also at the Indian Visa Office on March 15, 1965. However, these were withdrawn from the Office and the residence of the Deputy High Commissioner after a few days. The picket posted at the Indian Visa Office continues to remain there.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

**Firing by East Pakistan Rifles**

- \*737. { Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda:  
Dr. L. M. Singhvi:  
Shri Hukam Chand  
Kachhavaiya:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be please to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on or about the 18th March, 1965, there was heavy concentrated firing by the East Pakistan Rifles on Indian Sentry positions on the Lathitilla-Dumabari East Pakistan border; and

(b) if so, for how many hours and for the last how many days, the firing has been continuing and whether the Indian forces returned the fire?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Defence (Dr. D. S. Raju):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The East Pakistan Rifles fired towards our posts in the Lathitilla area from 13th to 15th and on 17th March, 1965. The intensity of fire varied from one round to four rounds on each date. From the 18th March

they started heavy intermittent firing with LMGs, and rifles which continued till the 28th March, 1965. Fire was returned by our Border Security Forces to the extent necessary.

A cease-fire was effected from morning of the 29th March, 1965.

#### Retirement Age of Defence Services Officers

\*738. **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:**

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question regarding retirement age of Defence Services Officers has been considered;

(b) whether it has been revised upwards;

(c) if so, the extent thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Defence (Dr. D. S. Raju):** (a) No, Sir.

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

(d) The existing retirement ages for officers are considered generally adequate. Further increase in those ages will be to the detriment of the Services, which call for physical and mental fitness of a high order.

#### तीसरे फिल्म समारोह का उद्घाटन

\* 739. **श्री प्रकाशबीर शास्त्री :** क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि तीसरे अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म समारोह के उद्घाटन समारोह के लिए समाचार-पत्रों के प्रतिनिधियों को निमंत्रण दिए जाने के सम्बन्ध में कुछ शिकायतें प्राप्त हुई हैं ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि अधिकांश निमंत्रण अंग्रेजी के दैनिक समाचार-पत्रों और फिल्म पत्रिकाओं के सम्पादकों, मुख्य संवाददाताओं और फिल्म आलोचकों को

ही भेजे गये थे और भारतीय भाषाओं के अनेकों समाचार-पत्रों के, जिनमें उर्दू प्रकाशित समाचार-पत्र भी सम्मिलित हैं, फिल्म आलोचकों, संवाददाताओं को निमंत्रण नहीं दिया गया हालांकि उनके सम्पादकों को आमंत्रित किया गया था ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण थे ; और

(घ) ऐसे समारोहों के अवसर पर देश के भारतीय भाषाओं के समाचार-पत्रों के प्रतिनिधियों को निमंत्रण भेजने के मामले में भारत सरकार द्वारा सामान्यतः क्या सिद्धांत अपनाया जाता है ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी) : (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) जी, नहीं । आमंत्रित व्यक्तियों में कई भारतीय भाषाओं के अखबारों के फिल्म आलोचक और संवाददाता थे, जिनमें उर्दू के अखबारों के भी 8 प्रतिनिधि थे ।

(ग) सवाल नहीं उठता ।

(घ) प्रेस के लिए खुले सरकारी समारोहों के लिए निमंत्रण आमतौर से भारत सरकार द्वारा स्वीकृत सभी पत्र-प्रतिनिधियों और महत्वपूर्ण स्थानीय समाचार-पत्रों के सम्पादकों, समाचार सम्पादकों और मुख्य रिपोर्टरों को दिये जाते हैं । जहां प्रेस के लिए सीटें सीमित होती हैं, वहां निमंत्रण देने में यह ध्यान रखा जाता है कि समारोह किस प्रकार का है और उसके विषय में कौन से संवाददाता कितनी रुचि रखते हैं, लेकिन किसी भी समाचार-पत्र या पत्रिका से उसकी भाषा के आधार पर भेदभाव नहीं किया जाता ।

श्रीमती दूतावास द्वारा सूचना केन्द्रों का खोला जाना

\* 740. **श्री हुकम चन्द कछबाय :** क्या बहिरीक-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा