

**Minorities in Border Districts of East Pakistan**

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\*123. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**  
**Shri Rameshwar Tantia:**

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Pakistan is planning to drive the minorities out of the border districts of East Pakistan.

(b) if so, whether those minorities have been driven out of East Pakistan or have been settled in other parts of Pakistan;

(c) whether it is also a fact that those minorities have approached the Indian High Commission for permits to come over to India; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

**The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Swaran Singh):** (a) Government have received some reports to this effect.

(b) It is a fact that a large number of persons of the minority communities have come over to India from the border districts of East Pakistan.

(c) The minorities in border areas have applied for migration certificates in numbers broadly proportionate to the minorities in East Pakistan as a whole.

(d) Migration certificates are granted to all members of the minority community in East Pakistan in cases of hardship.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know how many members of the minority community who had been displaced in this way from the border of Pakistan had applied for permits and how many of them were given permits? May I also know the definition of 'hardship' given by Government?

**Shri Swaran Singh:** I have not got the figures area-wise in the sense that so many are from the border districts and so many are from the other districts, but as I have indicated already, their number is practically the same as from other areas.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** By driving these minorities out of the border areas of East Pakistan, evidently the Pakistan Government have settled their retired military officers, mujahids, razakars and other para-troop people there. May I know what effective action our Government have taken on our side of the border to counteract this concentration of military and para-military forces on the border of East Pakistan?

**Shri Swaran Singh:** It is a fact that the movement of minorities particularly from the areas near the international border is a matter of grave concern, and this is constantly kept in view by the authorities, both civil and defence, whose responsibility it is to ensure the integrity of our borders.

**Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** May I know whether Government consider that the calculated move on the part of East Pakistan to drive out the minorities from their territory is or amounts to an act of genocide on their part, and if so, what action the Government of India propose to take in order to bring them to book before international opinion and international conscience.

**Shri Swaran Singh:** It is unfortunate that for several years now the minorities in East Pakistan have been subjected to constant pressures and there has been a migration of minorities into India. That is a matter which is of grave concern to us, and I think that the international jurists' body also went into it and they have produced also a report on that, and the hon. Member might have seen that.

**Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** My question was whether the Government of India viewed this as an act of genocide on the part of East Pakistan authorities,

and if so, what action was proposed to be taken. I am aware of the report of the international commission of jurists.

**Shri Swaran Singh:** It is a very reprehensible thing that this constant pressure and the sense of insecurity amongst the minorities should prevail. I do not exactly know what the exact implication of that expression is.

**Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** The hon. Minister must be knowing it.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** He can look up the dictionary and find it out.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** In answer to some questions, the hon. Minister has said that he is not very clear as to the number of applications which have come to the High Commission from people who have been asked to move away from the border districts. Further, he has said that in case of hardships, passports or visas etc. are given. May I know whether the High Commission has any information with regard to the specific number of people who have been asked to move out from the border districts, and if so, whether in view of the rather heartless attitude of the Rehabilitation Minister, in case they are permitted to come here, they will also be given all the benefits which are now being given to those who are in Kashmir as refugees?

**Shri Swaran Singh:** With regard to the first part of the question, if a separate question is tabled I shall be able to collect the information in regard to the numbers. With regard to the second part of the question, I do not think that the Rehabilitation Minister has at all been heartless. I think he has been very kind and he has been doing his best to help the refugees.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** May I know whether it is a fact that after the firm action by the Government of

India in the matter of driving out the Pakistani infiltrators from Kashmir there is a reign of terror in East Pakistan, and repressive measures have been adopted by the Pakistan Government on the minorities, and as a result of that many members of the minority communities are trying to come over to India but they are being refused or not granted migration certificate, and if so, whether suitable instructions have been issued to our High Commission there to grant migration certificates and whether every facility will be given to them when they come over to India.

**Shri Swaran Singh:** It is a fact—reports have come to our notice—that there is a greater sense of insecurity, and the attitude of the majority community in East Pakistan has become in certain areas more aggressive. There is no need of issuing any fresh instructions to our mission in Dacca because the existing instructions cover all these cases. I have no doubt that in all deserving cases the requisite certificates and the formalities are complied with.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** What is the answer to the last part?

**Mr. Speaker:** It would be done.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** I asked whether those who migrate and come will be given facilities to settle down here. Reply has not come to that.

**Shri Swaran Singh:** Such rehabilitation benefits as are available in such cases will certainly be available.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** He is evading.

**Mr. Speaker:** He cannot list all the benefits that would be given.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** I rise to a point of order. This particular question has been tabled to the External Affairs Ministry for two reasons. One is because they have information about Pakistan's attitude towards the minorities. Secondly, it was thought that in connection with certain supplementaries arising out of the

rehabilitation of those who have crossed over or are likely to cross over to India, he will consult the Rehabilitation Ministry and give the proper reply. According to the Cabinet, they function collectively. But here we find that none of the questions pertaining to rehabilitation facilities to persons who cross over is being answered. I seek your protection.

**Mr. Speaker:** Dr. Sarojini Mahishi.

**Dr. Sarojini Mahishi:** The hon. Minister was pleased to state that minorities in East Pakistan are being permitted by the Indian High Commission to come over here in cases of hardship. May I know the definition of 'hardship' as applied to them?

**Shri Swaran Singh:** This matter has been dealt with here before also. Certain categories are there. Their position is very insecure or there are relatives who have been separated. For the information of the House, I would like to say that the number of applications already there runs into thousands, I think about 8,000 or 9000. A fairly large number of them have already been granted migration certificates. We have already got from East Pakistan lakhs and lakhs of refugees. Everyday they are coming in. So it will not be correct to suggest that we are not trying to be helpful to those who stand in need of this help.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** What help are you giving them when they come here?

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** Nothing.

**Shri P. R. Chakravarti:** Is it a fact that Chinese pockets are springing up in Khulna and Jessore in the border districts of E. Pakistan? If so, is it a fact that the minorities are feeling scared on that score?

**Shri Swaran Singh:** I have already said that minorities in different parts there are feeling insecure. . .

**Shri P. R. Chakravarti:** I am referring to Chinese pockets there.

**Shri Swaran Singh:** Even without the Chinese pockets, I think they are sufficiently harassed, unfortunately, both by the administration as also by the local population.

#### Chinese Intimidation of Indian Patrol Near Mana Pass

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- \*124. { **Shri Yashpal Singh:**  
**Shri Surendra Pal Singh:**  
**Shri Shree Narayan Dass:**  
**Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:**  
**Shri D. D. Puri:**  
**Shrimati Savitri Nigam:**  
**Shri Rameshwar Tanti:**  
**Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:**  
**Shri Gulshan:**  
**Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda:**

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chinese tried and are trying to intimidate Indian patrols near the Mana Pass which is one of the border passes between Uttar Pradesh and Tibet; and

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Defence (Dr. D. S. Raju):** (a) On the 9th May 1965, a Chinese military party intruded approximately half a mile into Indian territory from across the Mana Pass in the middle sector of the India-Tibet border. On seeing an Indian Police patrol at a distance on the Indian side of the border, the Chinese intruders fired three shots and withdrew into Tibet through the Mana Pass. There has been no other incident or intrusion in this area.

(b) A protest was lodged with the Chinese Government against this deliberate violation of our territory. Precautionary measures for the security of our border have been taken.

**श्री यशपाल सिंह :** क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि माना पास के निकट अब कितनी चीजों चीन की जमा है ?