

Migration of Scheduled Castes from Pakistan

*711. { Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri Rameshwar Taatia:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan border authorities do not recognise the migration certificates issued by the Indian Deputy High Commissioner's office in Lahore to Harijans and Sikhs belonging to Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes residing in Pakistan;

(b) the reasons of such non-recognition; and

(c) the number of such people for whom migration certificates have been issued by the Indian Deputy High Commissioner's office and who have not been allowed to migrate by Pakistan authorities?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) and (b). Pakistan authorities insist on possession of Tax Exemption Certificates and Police Verification Reports in addition to Migration Certificates issued by the Deputy High Commissioner, particularly in the case of migrants belonging to Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes, before they would allow them to cross the border

(c) 29 such migrants were not allowed to cross the border

However, 352 Harijans who possessed all the documents required by Pakistani authorities were permitted to cross the border during September, October and November, 1957

Turmeric

*268. **Shri B. S. Murthy:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 648 on the 5th August, 1957 and state:

(a) the steps taken so far to maintain the level of prices of turmeric and the result thereof; and

(b) how far Government have been successful in securing new markets for Indian turmeric?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) It was indicated in answer to Starred Question No. 648 that the Forward Markets Commission had provided hedging facilities under a system of special margins payable by sellers in the forward market in the event of prices falling below certain limits. Though this measure has stabilised the prices to some extent the main factor responsible for the lower prices ruling for turmeric is the large increase in production during recent years which has risen from 117,000 tons in 1953-54 to 156,000 tons in 1955-56. During 1956-57 production is expected to be even higher.

(b) Our traditional markets for turmeric are Ceylon, Aden, Iran, Pakistan, U.K. and U.S.A. Malaya, France, Japan and Kenya have been importing sizeable quantities during recent years. A statement showing our exports during the years 1955-56 and 1956-57 is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 7].

Tobacco Industry

*278. **Shri B. S. Murthy:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any slump in the tobacco market at present; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to find new markets for Indian tobacco of all varieties and the result thereof?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise.

Displaced Persons in Tripura

912. **Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of displaced persons who have been rehabilitated in agriculture at Bartilla Colony, Tripura; and