

Displaced Persons from West Pakistan

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 *940. { Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
 Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:

Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 902, on the 14th August, 1957, and state:

(a) the number of displaced persons at Lahore Camp awaiting repatriation to India;

(b) the steps taken by Government for their early repatriation;

(c) the steps taken for the rehabilitation of displaced persons in Amritsar Camp; and

(d) whether their claims for the properties left in West Pakistan are proposed to be considered?

The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) One.

(b) The person concerned has been in the Camp only since the end of September, 1957. Efforts are being made to repatriate him as early as possible.

(c) A scheme for the resettlement of about 160 Kohati families in Sirohi District of Rajasthan is being finalised. Efforts are also being made to find land or employment or some kind of vocation for the remaining families.

(d) No.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: With respect to the properties left by such persons in West Pakistan for which we have to pay them here, may I know whether we will realise it from the Pakistan Government or not?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: Is the hon. Member referring to the displaced persons who came in the early stages or those who are coming to India now?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He might be referring to those who are mentioned in the question.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: My question was, with regard to the property which has been left in West Pakistan by such persons for which we are paying them here, we will get that money?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: To whom are we paying?

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: To the displaced persons who are coming to India from Pakistan.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is, both in camp and all those who have come since 1947? These have been settled long ago. Perhaps the hon. Member is too late.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether the attention of the hon. Minister has been drawn to a press note that several Harijans, men, women and children, who are willing to come to India were being prevented by the Pakistan Government by one way or the other; if so, may I know what steps are proposed to be taken to see that those who are willing to come here are allowed to come freely?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That question has already been answered by the Prime Minister.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if it is in view of the fact that there is only one inmate at present in the Lahore Camp that it has been decided to close this camp?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: We are not closing this camp on account of the fact that only one person is there. In our view there is no need for the camp any longer.

Technical Centres

*942. Shri M. K. Krishna: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the Indo-Japanese Technical Agree-