

**Shri Supakar:** I wanted to know the position after the commitments.

**Shri Satish Chandra:** If the hon. Member will look into the two statements that I have laid on the Table, the position will be clear to him.

**Shri Hem Barua:** May I know whether it is a fact that we have recently entered into a trade pact with Japan to the effect that Japan would take our iron ore and, if so, whether it is on a part-payment basis or on a cash and carry basis?

**The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** The entire negotiation is still under consideration.

#### Cement Factory at Siju (Assam)

\*1232. **Shri Hem Barua:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the present stage of the projected cement factory at Siju in the Garo Hills Assam, for which a licence was issued to the Associated Cement Company?

**The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** The firm, M/s Associated Cement Companies, Ltd., Bombay have postponed implementation of the scheme to the Third Plan period.

**Shri Hem Barua:** Is it a fact that the Associated Cement Company has failed to make any tangible progress in exploiting the cement deposits in the Garo Hills because of the transport difficulties?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** Yes, that is precisely the reason. They have postponed it to the Third Plan because there is no transport facility.

**Shri Hem Barua:** If that is so, what steps have the Government taken so far to remove the transport difficulties to develop this industry?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** This will be a proper question for the Ministry of Railways. But they are taking appropriate steps to increase the transport facilities in the State of Assam.

**Shri Hem Barua:** Besides coal and lime-stone, is gypsum also available there?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** It is not available in large quantities. But the gypsum required for a cement factory is hardly 3 to 4 per cent. So, that aspect will not be a deterrent in establishing a cement factory.

#### Kidnapping of Indian Nationals by Pakistan Police

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{ **Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:**  
**Shri Raghunath Singh:**  
 \*1233. **Shri Halder:**  
**Shri Bishwanath Roy:**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in the first week of March, 1958 Pakistan Police kidnapped seven Indian nationals in 24 Pargana District?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):** Yes, Sir. On the 6th March, 1958, some Pakistani Military personnel trespassed into the Indian side of the river Kalindi, in a motor launch and kidnapped four Indian boatmen, who were coming to Hingulganj, District 24 Parganas, in their boat, with 22 maunds and 36 seers of jute, and took them to Leksa Border outpost. The next day, some Pakistani Military men again crossed the river in a steam launch near Sigarkathi, P. S. Hasnabad and kidnapped three more Indian nationals with their boat, loaded with 20 maunds of paddy and one cycle.

The Government of West Bengal have lodged a protest with the Government of East Pakistan regarding the incident and asked for the immediate release of the kidnapped persons and return of the articles seized. Our High Commissioner in Karachi and our Deputy High Commissioner in Dacca have taken up the matter with the Government of Pakistan and pressed *inter alia* for immediate release of the seven kidnapped Indian nationals.

**Shrimati Bhanu Chakravarty:** In view of the fact that for almost twenty days these people are in custody, may I know the exact position regarding our nationals? Have we received any further news about them?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** We have not received any news from them. But we are doing our best to get them released as soon as possible.

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** We are greatly concerned about this matter. We entirely agree that it is a very serious matter. We tried our best by telephone and telegram for two or three days running to Karachi and elsewhere to find out the position. Our High Commissioner himself has been, if I may say so, running about the various offices in Karachi to find out the position. And the latest information that we received yesterday was that the Karachi Government, who apparently did know much about what the East Pakistan Government has done, were enquiring directly from the East Pakistan Government and that they will let us know the position and the steps taken. That is the latest position.

**Shrimati Bhanu Chakravarty:** May I know whether we have received any information from our Deputy High Commissioner, Dacca, who is on the spot and who is dealing with matters connected with East Pakistan generally?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** About the condition of these people?

**Shrimati Bhanu Chakravarty:** It is stated in the reply that "our Deputy High Commissioner in Dacca has taken up the matter with the Government of Pakistan and pressed inter alia for immediate release". Have we received any information directly from him, because Dacca is actually in East Pakistan and that is the place from where we can get the information?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I cannot immediately answer that question, whether we have received a particular message or not. The fact is that we have been in contact with Dacca and the Deputy High Commissioner has lodged a protest with that Government. The fact of the arrest of these persons is, of course, admitted. As to the reasons etc., it is for Pakistan to say.

**Shrimati Bhanu Chakravarty:** In view of the fact that for two days running, one after the other, the motor launches of the Pakistan Military Police have been crossing over to our side of the river, may we know whether we have no such motor boats for our police in order to patrol this area and actually protect those who are going and coming with paddy and other jute goods at this time of the year?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Obviously, there were no motor boats on the spot. The Pakistan authorities have been behaving rather strangely there on the plea of preventing smuggling. I do not know whether they have got motor boats and formations in that area for this purpose.

**Raja Mahendra Pratap:** Why not have a summit meeting on this subject?

#### Indians in South Africa

\*1294. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state the number of Indians to be displaced and the number of houses with their value to be affected by the Group Areas Act if enforced in South Africa?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan):** The enforcement of the Group Areas Act, 1960, throughout the Union of South Africa will affect all persons of Indian origin who number about 3,65,000. It is not possible to furnish exact information about the number and value of houses affected but they are likely to run into hundreds and their value into millions of pounds.