

MIGRATION FROM EAST BENGAL

*829. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply to starred question No. 300, asked on the 31st August, 1954 and state what are the reasons for the migration from East Bengal?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): The migration from East Bengal to West Bengal has been of the order of 5,000 to 6,000 per month in the first seven months of this year. The principal reasons apparently are the economic difficulties which are faced by the people in the Province generally and by the Hindus in particular. There are also various kinds of harassments by members of the majority community and the failure of the local authorities to render them adequate redress. A number of arrests in East Bengal in recent months and Press propaganda there have also added to the feeling of insecurity of the minority community.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: It has been stated in reply to question No. 300 that 25,000 persons have come. May I know the figure in the last year?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I could not catch the question.

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know the comparative figure for last year as against 25,000.

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I have got the figures we supplied on the last occasion. They are with regard to the migration certificates. I have not got the figure for the last year.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: May I know whether the present Military Governor's rule is also responsible for this migration?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: It has nothing to do with that. There is no Military Governor's rule. So far as the Governor of East Bengal was concerned, he used to be the Secretary of the Defence Ministry of Pakistan. There has been a growing feeling of insecurity in the minds of the minority community and also very great economic hardship.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: May I know whether there is insecurity in the minds of the minority community, and therefore, they are leaving for India?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: Obviously. Otherwise, they would not leave their hearth and home.

Shrimati Khongmen: May I know if the Prime Minister is in a position to show the migration figure of the hill people of Pakistan into the State of Assam in the corresponding period, i.e. January to August 1954, and the reason therefor?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: The estimated figures are as follows. During June and July, 1201 have migrated from East Bengal into Assam and the corresponding figures for last year were: in the month of June, 982 and in the month of July, 797.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Amjad Ali: The question asked was about the hill people. It is different from what the hon. Minister has said.

Mr. Speaker: Whatever it may be, I have called for the next question.

Shri Anil K. Chanda: The figures are not broken up into for the hill people and plains people.

CHANDERNAGORE

*830. **Shri Tushar Chatterjea:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal of the Government of India about formation of Chandernagore sub-division has been finalised by selecting specific areas for the sub-division;

(b) if so, what are those areas; and

(c) on what basis the constituents of this sub-division have been selected?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) Yes.