

will would offer their cooperation to the authorities in this campaign so that all may concentrate in making the life of the Nagas richer and happier. So unless the Naga representatives condemned violence by word and deed and abjured the false and misleading cry for the independence of the Nagas in the Naga Hills and in their neighbourhood, no useful purpose would be served by any talks between the Government officers and the misguided Nagas.

Shri Punnoose: Is it a fact that Phizo sought an interview with the Prime Minister and that the Government of Assam advised against such an interview and therefore it was dropped?

Shri Datar: So far as the latter part of the question is concerned, I am not aware of it. So far as the former part is concerned, they were clearly told that the Prime Minister would not see them unless they followed the lines that have been pointed out in my answer.

VISAS FOR PAKISTAN ARMY OFFICERS

*1188. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Army Officers of Pakistan who were given visas during 1955; and

(b) the number among them who extended their stay in India?

The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi): (a) 1,554 visas were issued to Defence personnel of all ranks.

(b) The State Governments are empowered to authorise extensions of visas. Information in respect of the number of extensions granted by the State Governments is not readily available.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: May I know what was the purpose of their visit to this country?

Shri Tyagi: The purpose generally was to see their families here or some men had some other business of a nature which was not objectionable.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: May I know the names of the States where they were staying?

Shri Tyagi: I am sorry I have not got that information; that is not readily available.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: May I know the reason for the extension of their stay in India?

Shri Tyagi: That is a matter for the State Governments to deal with. When visas are issued, they go to the respective States and it is for the State Governments to look into their requests. On merits they judge the question and grant the extension of the visas.

Shri R. P. Garg: May I know if some of these officers, who were given visas, visited the border areas or districts during their stay here?

Shri Tyagi: I have no information in that connection. If the hon. Member has any instances to quote, I shall be very glad to look into them.

Shri R. P. Garg: But I want information from the hon. Minister.

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. Minister has no information, he hasn't.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Sivamurthi Swami.

Shri Sivamurthi Swami: No. 1152.

An Hon. Member: Where is the hon. Minister? He is carrying on conversations over there.

The Minister of Natural Resources (Shri K. D. Malaviya): I am very sorry. I am extremely sorry I was talking to the Minister of Commerce. I apologise to the House.

Mr. Speaker: Not at the cost of the work here.