

As reported by the State government, the major problem being faced by the steel industry in Uttar Pradesh is shortage of power

[*Translation*]

SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV Mr Speaker Sir my original question is regarding the increase in the production of pig iron sponge iron and steel in Uttar Pradesh There is now where mentioned in the reply laid on the Table of the House by the hon Minister that any attempt has been made to increase the production He has given the figures of the production in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years— 1990-91 1991—92 1992—93 where the production has declined by 29.7 per cent in 1993-93 and 17 per cent 1991—92 My question was about the efforts to increase the production of some items In the replay he has stated about the declining trend

MR SPEAKER How many times would you ask? Please ask a question?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV I want to know as to what efforts would be made to improve the production?

[*English*]

SHRISONTOSH MOHANDEV All these 56 units in U P are in the private sector, no public sector undertaking is there The hon Member is very much right in mentioning the basic problem The production is going down not so much due to non-availability of the raw-material but due to non-availability of power at the time when it is needed and also due to frequent break-downs of power supply The most affected sector is this Sometimes when the other sectors get power, this sector is neglected this is the main reason for which the State Government has to improve the power sector From our side, whatever raw-material is necessary, we are supplying I have got all the data with me There is no difficulty

MR SPEAKER The question is what are

the plans to increase the production

SHRISONTOSH MOHANDEV The plan has to be given by the State Government I can give the raw-material I can give the Linkage of the raw-material But the power is in the State sector or the Power Ministry can help The State Government after interacting with the respective departments has to take action

[*Translation*]

SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV Mr Speaker, Sir he has categorically stated that due to shortage of power production has not been up to the mark Would the hon Minister like to point out as to what are the reasons for shortage of power? Are the owners not able to pay bills or the Government is not supplying the required amount of electricity? what are the reasons?

[*English*]

SHRISONTOSH MOHANDEV There is a big gap between production and the demand This is the main reason

MR SPEAKER Q No 806—Shri Ram Lakhan Singh Yadav—not present, Q No 807—Shri Shivraj Singh Chauhan—not present

Chakma refugees

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808 SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL
SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) the number of Chakma tribals from Bangladesh sheltered in the North—Eastern State, State—wise,

(b) the amount spent on the maintenance of their camps and the financial assistance rendered to them during 1992-93

(c) whether the Government of Bangladesh had accepted in principle to take back over 53,000 tribal refugees mainly of the Chakma tribe in the recent past.

(d) if so, the progress made up to regard so far, and

(e) the steps being taken in consultation with the Government of Bangladesh for the quick, smooth and safe repatriation of these refugees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS : SHRI P. M. SAYEED : (a) 53,187 refugees, mostly Chakma tribals, are at present living in six camps in Tripura. Besides, about 35,000 persons, mostly Chakmas, have settled down in Arunachal Pradesh since 1964.

(b) An amount of Rs. 44 crores (approx) has been spent till 31.3.93 on the maintenance of Chakma refugee camps in Tripura including an amount of Rs. 7.51 crores spent during 1992—93.

(c) According to the Joint Communiqué issued after visit of the Bangladesh Prime Minister to India during May, 1992, "the two Prime Ministers agreed to arrange speedy repatriation of all Chakma refugees to Bangladesh in full safety and security."

(d) The Bangladesh Government have set up a 9—member political level Committee headed by a Cabinet Minister to find a political solution to the problem of Chittagong Hill Tracts (Bangladesh) from where these refugees came.

(e) The Government of India is in constant touch with the Government of Bangladesh in this regard. As a result of such efforts a delegation from Bangladesh will be visiting the refugee camps in Tripura shortly.

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : May I know whether it is a fact that so far our Govern-

ment has failed to reach any peaceful and political settlement for the repatriation of these Chakma tribal refugees with the Bangladesh Government and get a specific assurance from that Government about restoration of their alienated land, rehabilitation benefits and deportation of Muslim infiltrators from the Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Sir, it is a fact that Chakmas were insisting certain conditions to be fulfilled for their return. But Bangladesh Government, after the Prime Minister's visit agreed to take all these refugees back after creating environment fully conducive to take them back to the same.

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : I want to know, if the prime Minister during his last visit to Dhaka to attend the SAARC meeting discussed the matter with the Bangladesh Prime Minister. If so, what was her reaction and what is the major stance at present?

SHRI P. M. SAYEED : In the SAARC meeting, I am not aware whether the Prime Minister had discussed this matter because in the communication both the Prime Ministers have agreed for a speedy repatriation of Chakmas to Bangladesh. For that a political committee was to be set up. Bangladesh has done that and a nine—member committee headed by a cabinet Minister has been appointed. That very committee visited here and the Committee headed by the Communication Minister of Bangladesh, Shri Wali Ahamed is coming next month, second week, in order to go to Tripura to further the process and take back all the refugees to Bangladesh.

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not with the Chakma tribals alone that this rehabilitation of refugees problem has arisen. Even in the case of the refugees from Sri Lanka and other neighbouring countries there have been refugee camps in Dandakamaya of my State of Orissa. I would like to know from the hon. Minister through you Sir, whether Govern-

ment has formulated any national policy of receiving tribals from neighbouring States and countries. If so, whether adequate steps have been taken for their proper rehabilitation and future repatriation?

SHRIP M SAYEED Mr Speaker Sir, this question relates to Chakma refugees settled in North Eastern states. Hon. Member's question relates to the refugees from other countries and other areas, therefore, I need a specific

MR SPEAKER He was trying to understand whether there was any policy.

SHRIP M SAYEED The Government of India's policy for the people who have come from neighbouring countries is to return them back to their original countries with honour and security.

SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA Mr Speaker Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister through you the fate of Chakma refugees who are settled in Aunachal Pradesh between 1964 and 1971 about 60,000 Chakma refugees came over to Arunachal Pradesh and settled there. Since then they have been trying to get citizenship of this country. On behalf of the Government of India, Shri M. M. Jacob, the then Minister of State for Home, declared and it is stated in the letter here that refugees from Bangladesh who came to India between 1964 and 25th 1971 are eligible to the grant of citizenship. Most of the migrants have been granted citizenship, etc. But there are still thousands of Chakma refugees who have not been given citizenship. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, after the assurance given by the Minister of State for Home, what steps the Government has taken as regards awarding of citizenship to these refugees settled in Arunachal Pradesh.

SHRI P M SAYEED In Arunachal Pradesh, since 1964 only 35,000 Chakmas have settled down. About those people who have come up to 1971, as has been mentioned, my

predecessor has already stated that the Government of India has taken a decision to grant them citizenship.

SHRISYE DS HAHABUDDIN There is a contradiction in what the Minister has stated today in the House. First he says that it is the policy of the Government of India that the refugees from the neighbouring country coming to India should go back to their original homes in dignity and honour. Secondly, he states that we have agreed to give citizenship to those who have come before 1971. There seems to be some contradiction.

MR SPEAKER Let them be read together.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN What I mean is that if the Government adopts the policy of giving citizenship to the refugees of a particular country, then obviously the pressure for grant of citizenship to the others also will increase.

My question is really on some other point. That the Chakmas are all from Bangladesh is well established. That they would like to go back that the Government of Bangladesh has been giving us repeated assurances and the last assurance given was at the Prime Minister level during the visit of the Prime Minister of Bangladesh to India.

My question is are the Government satisfied with the assurances given by the Government of Bangladesh and the action taken by the Government of Bangladesh? The hon. Minister has laid great stress on the formation of a political committee by the Government of Bangladesh. Whether they form a political committee or ten political committees is their business. It is none of our business. What we request is, what we demand from them is, that conditions must be created in Bangladesh that the refugees should go back to their country and they should leave our territory as soon as possible.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister, whether apart from relying on this repeated assurances from the Government of Bangladesh, is the Government thinking in terms of drawing the attention of the international community to this continued occupation of outer territory?

SHRI P. M. SAYEED : For the first part of the question, sir, you have yourself intervened and helped me. The general policy of the Government has been spelt out. Particularly, these 35,000 Chakma refugees have been given permission to stay here and the Government of India has taken a decision to give them citizenship.

The second part of the question, which the hon. Member has asked is with regard to the *bona fides* of the government of Bangladesh and as to whether the Government of India is satisfied with them. After the Prime Minister's visit and the a communique issued clearly spelt out, that both the Prime Ministers have agreed to repatriate all Chakma refugees and consequently in furtherance of it, a nine-member committee was formed and they have deliberated many a time regarding this issue and a further development is they are coming to India. Secondly they are going to Tripura to further hasten the process of repatriation of Chakma refugees. Therefore, the Government of India has no reason to doubt the *bona fides* on the part of the Government of Bangladesh.

SHRI I AETA UMBREY : I would like to ask the position and before that I would like to register my protest regarding recognition of Chakmas as citizens of this country. You are quite aware of the fact that Arunachal is a restricted area. Even Indian citizens in order to go to Arunachal require permission from the local authorities. These Chakmas ethnically are like us. They are generally Budhists and are settled in a place where Budhist Arunachalis are staying. So, it is very difficult to distinguish them from the Arunachalist. Moreover, they are the ones who are creating problems. There are serious law and order problems, created day

by day in those localities where these Chakmas are settled.

You are quite aware of the fact that Arunachal is one of the Peaceful States in the country. Still, recognising Chakma refugees as the citizens of the country, the Government will not be doing justice; rather it will be inviting problems.

My question is—Have you received a protest from the Government of Arunachal Pradesh and also a demand for the early deportation of these refugees from Arunachal Pradesh? What is the centre Govt's stand?

SHRI P. M. SAYEED : This is something between the Government of India and the Arunachal Government because they wanted that these 35,000 Chakmas to be taken to other parts. And that of course would be settled between the Central Government and Arunachal Government.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : At one point of time, the Government of India decided or rather declared that Shri Hai Sukhlal Hathi was the last Rehabilitation Minister of our country. Therefore, at this stage what we find is that the Government of India is pursuing a policy of *ad hocism* in the context of the tense international situation, where most of the countries are facing the refugee problem. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the government has any design, plan or intention to change this *ad hocism* and frame general policy on this subject.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED : As far as the refugee problem is concerned, there is no question of *ad hocism* by the Government of India. We have a definite policy, which I have already spelt out.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH : Mr Speaker, Sir, in all fairness this question should have been addressed to the Ministry of External Affairs. But since the Home Minister is replying to it, I would like to know whether there is a large number of Chamka refugees in Tripura and

in Arunachal or not. The Condition of the camps in which they are staying is rather hopeless and horrible. So, there is no question of granting them citizenship. No foreigner can be granted citizenship according to the law of the land. Is there any policy with the Government to pursue this with the Government of Bangladesh?

In all earnestness, these refugees should go back, as Shri Shahabuddin has said. The reports have appeared that Bangladesh Government is not willing or rather reluctant to ...
(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: That has been very clearly replied to.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Therefore, it is going to create a lot of social tension, as our hon. friend has pointed out. So, will the Government take positive steps with the Bangladesh Government so that these refugees can go back to Bangladesh?

MR. SPEAKER: He has replied to it. He has said 'yes'.

[*Translation*]

PROF. RITA VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to put a very simple question to the hon. Minister. Is he convinced and satisfied with the repeated assurances given by Bangladesh?

MR. SPEAKER: He has replied to this question also. He has said, "Yes"

PROF. RITA VERMA: Our Government is so simple and innocent that it is betrayed again and again yet it believes them. While going through the records of the treatment given to the religious minorities there, it is obvious that a slight provocation there or after any agitation is started here, the temples are demolished there again and again. The minorities are tortured and harassed and the Government makes assurance after such incidents, Government readily believes it. Does the Government have confidence that if the Chakma refugees go back to their

native country, they would not be subjected to the treatment for which they had to leave their motherland? Does the Government take the Chakma refugees and other Bangladeshis, who have formed the organisation Muzahir Vahini, as equals? Does the Government consider the Bangladeshis who had been forced to leave their country due to religious persecution and those who come here to earn their bread to be equal?

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Mr. Speaker, Sir, though it has already been replied, yet I would like to state one thing clearly that in the joint communique issued by the Prime Ministers of India and Bangladesh it was stated that they have agreed and arrangement would be made to send back the Chakma refugees. Under this agreement Ministers of Bangladesh are also visiting this country in the second week of the next month and we are also going there. Therefore, there is no scope for doubt in their intentions.

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I hope the hon. Minister will be able to say something about the Chakma refugees from Myanmar. Does the hon. Minister know anything why they are here? In view of the repression in Burma, they were brought here and they were given repeated assurances for their citizenship. Today, some of them met me. Does the hon. Minister know anything about it? Is he aware of any step that has been taken? The hon. Minister may try to get information and let us know.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: I will try to get the information and let him know.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Ayurvedic System to Check Population

802. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state: