

Khatoon a prisoner from Balurghat sub-jail in the West Dinajpur District of West Bengal, addressed to a Member of Lok Sabha during the Budget Session of 1971, if so, the action taken thereon;

(b) whether the Prime Minister had assured the M.P. through her letter for sympathetic action on the request for withdrawing cases U/s 14 of the Foreigners Act against non-Bengali women and children prisoners or accused persons from Bangladesh, adult male members from whose families had been killed; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN) : (a) In June 1971, Prime Minister received such a letter from the Hon'ble Member.

(b) and (c). In July 1971, Prime Minister had received another letter from the Hon. Member suggesting that refugees, particularly women and children, arrested for violation of the provisions of the Foreigners Act should be released. It was understood that the Government of West Bengal had issued instructions for the release, on humanitarian grounds, of the specific individuals whose cases the Hon. Member had brought to Government's notice. His suggestion regarding the withdrawal, on compassionate grounds, of criminal cases pending against them has also been taken up with the Government of West Bengal and is under correspondence with them.

#### ENQUIRIES FOR FOREIGN EXCHANGE

5611. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maharashtra Sub-Contracting Exchange has processed 41 enquiries from Government Departments, Railways, Public and Private Sector organisations for meeting their requirements indigenously; and

(b) if so, whether these 41 enquiries include all the enquiries upto this day or there are also enquiries which require foreign exchange and import licence?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). The Maharashtra Sub-contracting Exchange which brings together large-scale units and small-scale units capable of meeting their requirements has processed, 1,849 enquiries in this manner from its inception in May, 1970 till March, 1972.

The operational process does not envisage analysis of foreign exchange requirements or import licences.

#### PM'S STATEMENT REGARDING STRICT WATCH ON COMMUNAL BODIES

5612. SHRI M. KALYANA SUNDARAM : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister had said on the 24th March, 1972 while addressing a rally at her residence that strict watch was being kept on communal bodies and stern action would be taken against them if they continued their anti-people activities; and

(b) if so, the full text thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN) : (a) and (b). No verbatim record of the Prime Minister's address has been kept. The Prime Minister had clarified the views of the Government on this subject in Parliament from time to time.

#### PROJECT ALLOWANCE FOR P & T STAFF AT RANCHI

5613. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether D.G., P&T, New Delhi communicated sanction of Project Allowance for the P&T Staff at Ranchi and accordingly the Project Allowance was drawn by the D.E.T., Ranchi and paid to Telegraph Engineering Staff at Ranchi;

(b) whether the Telegraph Engineering Employees who got the payment of said Project Allowance had not applied for