

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): The Prime Minister of Mauritius Hon. Anerood Jugnauth Accompanied by his wife and Permanent Secretary, paid an official visit to India from 2nd to 5th April, 1985. During his visit he called on our President and Vice-President, and held discussions with the Prime Minister, as well as several other Ministers of the Government of India. International issues concerning the Indian Ocean, Disarmament, the Middle East and South Asia were touched upon during the talks. On bilateral matters discussions resulted in a decision to give an additional Rs. 10 crores worth of mixed credits to Mauritius, and to give 10,000 tonnes of wheat flour as well as some pulses. India would in future extend 100 scholarships to Mauritius, and would also increase its assistance for certain projects, such as the Jawaharlal Nehru Hospital, covered under the Indo-Mauritian Joint Commission. The third meeting of the Joint Commission is expected to be held in June this year.

Influx of Refugees

5746. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the main causes of the influx of refugees into the country and the number of refugees already entered into the country since 1983; and

(b) the steps Government have taken to check them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA):

(a) Since 1983 there has been influx of refugees from Sri Lanka only. The refugee influx started as a result of feeling of insecurity and fear among Sri Lankan Tamils in the wake of ethnic violence of July-August, 1983. The security situation in Sri Lanka especially in the North and East continues to be tense. This has led to a further spurt in the influx of refugees since February this year.

According to reports received from the State Government of Tamil Nadu during

the period from July, 1983 to 27-4-85, 87,772 refugees entered India from Sri Lanka.

(b) The Government of India believes that a political solution to the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka has to be found and they have been in touch with the Sri Lanka Government in this regard. The Government hopes that conditions in Sri Lanka will improve so that the refugees in India can return home in safety and dignity.

[Translation]

Employment to employees working on daily wages in Census Department, Sagar

5747. SHRI DALCHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether consequent on winding up of Cenus Department of the Sagar Division, Sagar, 62 employees working on daily wages for the last 2-1/2 years in it were rendered unemployed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to provide them employment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) These employees were recruited on a purely casual basis for specific time bound census work.

(c) Does not arise.

The casual employees were recruited on the clear understanding that on completion of the work for which they had been recruited, they would not be retained in service. However, on a purely humanitarian consideration, the Madhya Pradesh Government were requested for special consideration in the matter of their absorption in alternative employment. The Madhya Pradesh Government did not find it feasible to meet the request because they had a very large number of daily wage employees on their rolls for whom no concession or special consideration was available.