

possible increase in prices as the trend in those days was towards increase ?

Shri Karmarkar : We did not take the possibilities into consideration ; we took actualities into consideration. The 2 per cent. is the actuality.

Shri G. D. Somani : May I enquire whether the hon. Minister is aware of the fact that the mills are at present absorbing the full 100 per cent. additional excise duty in the present sales to the dealers ?

Shri Karmarkar : May be ; but my answer proper is contained in the original answer.

Chadd Bet

*635. **Shri Gidwani:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Pakistani Nationals crossed Pakistan border near Chadd Bet, Cutch, and entered India on 23rd September, 1956;

(b) whether any of them have been arrested; and

(c) what was their intention in entering India ?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) to (c). A Pakistani national was arrested by the Indian authorities on the 23rd September, 1956 for entering Indian territory near Chadd Bet in Kutch without any travel documents. He was tried under the Passport Rules and sentenced to two months' rigorous imprisonment on the 27th September, 1956.

Shri Gidwani: Was it only one person or was he accompanied by some other ?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: According to our information only one person was apprehended.

Shri Gidwani: Has the Government enquired as to what was his object in coming here ?

Shri Anil K. Chanda : Naturally we made enquiries. He seemed to have left his country in order to evade the rigours of law in that country.

Shri D. C. Sharma: The Pakistan Government made some claims to this Chadd Bet area. May I know if any correspondence has taken place between the Government of India and the Government of Pakistan.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : That is not connected with the present question.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh : Is it true that some person from Pakistan came to this

territory of ours and took away about 14 buffaloes from there and no action has been taken by our Government ?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I have no information.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This was only about the coming over of a national of Pakistan.

Shri Gidwani: The hon. Minister said that that person came here with a view to escape the rigours of law there. I did not follow.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There must be something pending against him also

Shri Anil K. Chanda: Yes, that is the point.

Abducted Persons (Recovery and Restoration) Act

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*636. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
 { **Shri Krishnaacharya Joshi:**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1245 on the 20th August, 1956 and state:

(a) whether Government of India have decided to extend the life of Abducted Persons (Recovery and Restoration) Act of 1949 which expires by the end of November 1956; and

(b) the total number of abducted women still to be recovered from Pakistan ?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) Yes, for one year upto 30th November 1957.

(b) It is not possible to give any precise figures indicating the number of abducted persons yet to be recovered in India and Pakistan. This work has been entrusted to the two High Powered Officers whose report is still awaited.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if the Government is going to make some efforts to arrive at an approximate assessment of the abducted persons either in Pakistan or in India, and, if so, if it is going to make use of some machinery for it ?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Why did he not make these suggestions in the debate on this subject just two days back when all the suggestions have been put and answers given ?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I can give him the information, Sir. Two high-powered officers, one from India and another from Pakistan, are engaged in this task.