

steamer and if so, to what extent?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) and (b). The Government of India had arranged nine chartered flights to Saudi Arabia by the Indian Airlines Corporation for carrying about 500 Haj pilgrims, with effect from the 2nd June, 1958. Due to the prevalence of cholera in India, the Government of Saudi Arabia refused to allow the landing of pilgrims from India by air. The chartered flights had, therefore, to be cancelled. Out of 500 pilgrims, who had booked their passages by air, 250 were anxious and prepared to go by sea. They were accommodated in the last three Haj sailings.

Ransacking of India Deputy High Commission in Lahore

*22. { Shri Ram Krishan:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Tyagi:
Shri Vajpayee:
Pandit D. N. Tiwary:
Shrimati Parvathi
Krishnan:
Shri Warior:
Shri Hem Raj:
Shri Assar:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Arjun Singh
Bhadauria:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the premises of the India Deputy High Commission in Lahore were ransacked and looted by Pakistanis on the 10th July, 1958 after its closure;

(b) if so, the extent of loss suffered;

(c) whether it is also a fact that members of the staff of the Deputy High Commission were harassed and ill-treated at the Wagah border while they were returning to India on the closure of the Mission there;

(d) if so, details of the incident; and

(e) the action taken by the Government of India in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) and (b). On the day our Deputy High Commissioner at Lahore was leaving Lahore after the closing down of the Mission on the 10th July, 1958, some persons broke into the house and stole some crockery and ceiling and table fans. The two persons carrying fans were caught and the fans recovered from them. The loss consists of only some crockery pieces. Information about their value is still awaited.

(c) & (d). Certain members of the staff of our Mission were unduly delayed at the border by Pakistan Police authorities which made them miss the train at Amritsar, causing them and their families considerable inconvenience. Out of the 30 odd persons travelling, 7 or 8 were so detained. The party was detained for over an hour and a half and as their vehicles were also detained some of them had to walk on foot to cross on to the Indian side.

(e) Protests have been lodged in regard to the two incidents with the Pakistan Government. Their reply is still awaited.

Plant for Milk Powder and Condensed Milk

*23. { Shri Narayanankutty
Menon:
Shri Warior:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the foreign manufacturers of milk powder and condensed milk have offered to set up plants in India;

(b) if so, the details of their offer; and

(c) the decision taken thereon?