

Money Lending Business by Afghan National in Chapra (Bihar)

4803. SHRI RAM SHEKHAR PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had stopped the money lending business of the Afghan Nationals in India after the 31st December, 1954 ;

(b) whether the Afghan money lenders were given a time-limit for collection of their dues which expired long ago ;

(c) whether some Afghan money lenders are yet continuing to make fresh money lending business in Chapra town of District Saran (Bihar) ; and

(d) if so, the action Government are contemplating to take to stop the money lending business by the Afghan Nationals, in Chapra town ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, AND MINISTER OF STATE, DEPARTMENTS OF ELECTRONICS AND SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) and (b). Policy has been that the Afghan money lenders who have been residing in India since before 31st December, 1954, can continue their money-lending business. Those who came to India after that date should not do fresh business and should also wind up their existing business. No fixed time-limit was laid down for this purpose, each case being considered on its merits.

(c) and (d). There are four Afghan nationals in Chapra town who have been resident in India since before 31st December, 1954, and who can, therefore, continue their money-lending business including fresh business. There is no information about any other Afghan national in Chapra town doing fresh money-lending business.

 Afghan Money Lenders in Chapra (Bihar)

4804. SHRI RAM SHEKHAR PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the Afghan money lenders of Chapra (Bihar) have not submitted their list of borrowers as yet ;

(b) whether Government are also aware that these money lenders are not paying any income tax ; and

(c) if so, how long they will take to collect their arrears and close their business ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, AND MINISTER OF STATE, DEPARTMENTS OF ELECTRONICS AND SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Doubtful Nationality of a Minister in Assam Government

4805. SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA ; SHRI MANIBHAI J. PATEL ; SHRI BHARAT SINGH CHAUHAN :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of a report published in the Indian Express of the 14th November, 1970 regarding communication by Shri Moinul Haque Chowdhary, former, Agriculture Minister of Assam, addressed to the Chief Minister, demanding a probe by the Supreme Court Judge into the doubtful nationality of one of the Ministers, Shri Altaf Hussain Mazumdar ;

(b) whether Government also aware that Shri Mazumdar migrated to East