

**of Urgent Public
Importance**

Mr. Speaker: Surely Parliament agrees that the sympathies of this House also should be conveyed to the Government and people of Nagaland and to the members of the bereaved family.

Several Hon. Members: Yes, yes.

Shri P. C. Borooah rose—

Mr. Speaker: Is any supplementary necessary?

Some Hon. Members: No, no.

Mr. Speaker: I think we should not put any.

श्री प्रकाश वीर शास्त्री (विजनीर) :
बदि आप उचित समझे तो नागा प्रदेश के जो इस तरह के देश भक्त व्यक्ति हैं जिनकी भारत के साथ सहानुभूति है, उनकी विशेष सुरक्षा व्यवस्था के लिए भारत सरकार की ओर से कुछ प्रवन्ध किया जाए।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह कहा गया है। यह किया जा रहा है।

(ii) REMOVAL OF INDIANS FROM
MOZAMBIQUE

Shri Buta Singh (Moga): Under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Prime Minister to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

The reported removal of Indians from the Portuguese colony of Mozambique in contravention of the agreement signed by the Government of India with the Portuguese Government.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): Consequent on the liberation of Goa, Daman and Diu, the Government of Portugal interned a large number of Indian nationals residing in the Portuguese colonies, sealing their business premises and freezing their assets and properties. The number of such detainees was 2,239 out of a total population of persons of Indian origin by over 12,000 the balance holding Portuguese and

British Passports. These Indian nationals were released from detention in the Portuguese Colonies on the 13th of May, 1962 and they were told that they would be required to quit these territories within three months provided that their residence permits were not further extended.

2. In accordance with the terms of the Agreement arrived at between the Governments of India and Portugal these Indian nationals on their departure are to be allowed to bring out with them all their personal effects, jewellery and cash upto £200 (Sterling) per person and the sale proceeds of the rest of their movable and immovable properties minus debts and taxes due from them. Any of the Indian nationals who cannot wind up their businesses within three months that have been allowed to them, can give power of attorney to friends who can within a year of the date of the departure of owners effect the sale of proceeds and assets and remit them to India.

3. Reports have been received that the Portuguese authorities are not implementing the Agreement fully and have imposed restrictions in regard to the repatriation of assets of the Indian nationals by promulgation of a Decree (No. 44416 of 25th June, 1962).

4. The Government of India have taken a serious view of this action by the Portuguese Government and have asked the Government of Portugal through the United Arab Republic Embassy in Lisbon to rescind this Decree and to extend the necessary facilities to Indian nationals to wind up their affairs and repatriate their assets in accordance with the terms of the Agreement.

5. In addition, at our request, the Government of the United Arab Republic sent Mr. Wagih Safwat, a First Secretary of the U.A.R. Embassy in Lisbon, to Mozambique with a view to ensuring that the Indian nationals who have to leave these Portuguese territories get the benefit

[Shrimati Lakshmi Menon]

of the terms of Agreement. Mr. Safwat has reported that the Portuguese authorities have postponed the deportation of Indian nationals for the time being. As a result of Mr. Safwat's intervention the Portuguese authorities in Mozambique have issued on August 8, 1962 their Diploma No. 2266 which stipulates a greater flexibility in the application of the rigid disabilities imposed by their Decree No. 44416 of June 25, 1962. Under the terms of this Diploma, Indian Nationals are allowed to apply for extension of their stay-permits in Mozambique. The children of the Indian nationals born in Mozambique are also being allowed to continue their stay in this Portuguese colony. The Government of India are requesting the U.A.R. authorities to bring to the attention of Portuguese authorities the various cases of violation of their Agreement with us in this respect, and to ask them to remove all restrictions inhibiting full implementation of the Agreement.

6. The U.A.R. Government are continuing their efforts to persuade the Government of Portugal to rescind their Decree No. 44416 of 25th June, 1962.

7. The first batch of 38 Indian nationals returned to India from Mozambique on August 3, 1962 by the B.I.S.N. ship s.s. 'Karanja'. An official of the Ministry of External Affairs was deputed to meet them at Bombay on arrival and render such assistance to them for reaching their destination within India from Bombay as might be necessary. Special facilities for clearance through customs and certain concessions for import of their house-hold and other belongings were given to them. None of the repatriates accepted any assistance for going to their respective home-towns. The second batch of 100 Indian nationals has returned by s.s. 'Kampala' on September 2, 1962. Again an official of the Ministry of External Affairs was deputed to go to Bombay to receive them and extend

the necessary facilities and concessions to them. This time almost 70 repatriates did not have any place in Bombay to stay. Arrangements were made to provide them with accommodation to stay for a few days in Bombay. Some of them, this time, also asked for monetary help to return to their respective home-towns. This is being rendered to them.

Shri Bata Singh: There have been reports in the Press that the Portuguese committed outright robbery while throwing these Indians out of this colony of Mazambique. May I know, Sir, whether the Government of India are taking adequate steps to see that this kind of vengeful persecution of Indian nationals is not repeated elsewhere by the Portuguese?

Mr. Speaker: The whole statement related to what steps have been taken.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): In the newspapers it is reported that well-to-do Indians in the colony formed an association called the Bharat Samaj for the repatriation of these Indian nationals. It is also said that the Portuguese Government have, however, frozen the assets of the Bharat Samaj. I want to know whether this is correct; and, if so, has this been taken up with the representative of the U.A.R. so that the assets may not be frozen.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member wants to know whether the assets of Bharat Samaj have been frozen and whether Government have any information on this matter.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I will read out one or two sentence which will make this clear.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The Bharat Samaj is an organisation of the Indian nationals there, and so far as we know it is a fact that the assets of this association have been frozen.