

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (VIDESH MANTRI) (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Pakistan Deputy High Commissioner in Calcutta has ceased to function as from the 26th April, 1971.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Kidnapping of Six Men engaged in Relief Work by Pakistani Troops

*174. SHRI S. A. MURUGNATHAM : Will the MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (VIDESH MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether six young men engaged in relief work for evacuees from Bangla Desh at Radhikapur in West Dinajpur District were kidnapped recently by Pakistan Troops ;

(b) if so, whether Government have protested to Pakistan against the said incident ; and

(c) what steps have been taken to secure their release ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (VIDESH MANTRALAYA MEN UP-MANTRI) (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Seven members of the Bangla Desh Mukti Sahayak Samity were kidnapped by the Pakistani Army from Radhikapore, District West Dinajpur, West Bengal on 22nd April, 1971.

(b) and (c). Government have strongly protested to the Government of Pakistan and have demanded the immediate return of the kidnapped persons. No reply has so far been received from the Government of Pakistan.

रक्षा उत्पादनों में तेजी से वृद्धि करने सम्बन्धी योजना

*175. श्री जगन्नाथराव जोशी :
श्री आर. एच. पांडे :

क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या रक्षा उत्पादनों में और तेजी से वृद्धि करने संबंधी कोई योजना सरकार के विचाराधीन है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में सरकार का विचार इस विषय में क्या कदम उठाने का है ?

रक्षा मंत्रालय (रक्षा उत्पादन) में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री विद्याचरण शुक्ल) : (क) रक्षा उत्पादन को बढ़ाने का निर्यात आवश्यकताओं के पुनरीक्षण के आधार पर होता है जो एक सतत प्रक्रिया है ।

(ख) इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार द्वारा उठाए पगों के ब्यारे बताना लोक हित में नहीं होगा ।

Difficulties faced by Haj Pilgrims to Saudi Arabia

*176. SHRI N. K. SANGHI : Will the MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (VIDESH MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) the number of pilgrims who travelled by air to Saudi Arabia for performing Haj this year and whether some flights had to be cancelled due to sudden change in the health Regulations prescribed by the Saudi Arabian authorities ;

(b) whether a large number of pilgrims was quarantined in Jeddah for the reason that the pilgrims did not spend five days in a cholera-free area before landing in Saudi Arabia and whether these pilgrims were not possessing the certificates of residence of