11

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव: यह प्रश्न पूछने के पहले जानकारी थी भी आपको कि नहीं?

में या जहां हों वह मिल जायें और तब जैसी

उचित कार्यवाही उनके खिलाफ करनी होगी

वह की जायेगी।

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, I have not called you.

Mass exodus into India from East Pakistan

*93. SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SANYAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state what steps have been or are being taken by the Government of India with a view to ensure that people do not undertake mass exodus into this country from East Pakistan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): Increased migration from East Pakistan has taken place recently on account of generally insecure conditions, economic distress, and discriminatory treatment meted out to the minorities there. The Government have repeatedly drawn attention of the Government of Pakistan to the plight of the minorities there and have reminded them of their obligations under the Nehru Liaquat Pact of 1950, which require them to guarantee to their minorities security, full freedom and equality of rights. The Government will continue to pursue the matter bilaterally with Pakistan.

SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SAN-YAL: In view of the news which has appeared in the Press ths.t during a short period nearly a lakh of people have crossed over to this side, is the hon. Minister aware that it is having a severe impact upon the socio-economic structure of West Bengal and it is also adversely

affecting the law and order position? In view of that, what is the Government proposing to do as a short-term measure?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH: Sir,

it is true that migration on a very large scale is taking place and people are coming into West Bengal. It does create certain problems, but the Government is trying its very best to rehabilitate these people, to provide jobs for them, etc. All of them are being taken care of. It is true that it does create problems for West Bengal, but it is very difficult to stop it. We do our very best to persuade people not to come and remain in Pakistan, but conditions being what they are in East Pakistan, it is very difficult for them to stay there. They do come and we have to allow them on compassionate grounds.

SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SANYALr It is possible for the Government of India to encourage the democratic movement in Pakistan, so that the panicky sections of the people do not come out and may be reassured to stay on there?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH: We

would very much wish to see that democratic institutions get encouragement in Pakistan, but our persuasion will not have any effect. As regards the fulfilment of obligations under the Nehru-Liaquat Pact, we have been drawing the attention of Pakistan authorities to the fact that it is their duty and responsibility to protect their minorities and that they should do everything possible to fulfill their obligations. We will continue to do that.

SHRI MAHITOSH PURAKAYASTHA: Will the Minister be pleased to state whether the Government's attention has been drawn to a news item published in today's paper about the denial by the East Pakistan Government that exodus of minorities is taking place? They have completely denied that exodus of minorities is taking place. It is not only into West Bengal, but also into Assam and Tripura refugees from East Pakistan are pouring. If it is a fact, may I know what steps the Government propose to take to stop this migration?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH: Such a news has come from Pakistani sources, but we do not agree with it. We know that migration Is taking place on a very large scale, on an abnormal scale, and in order to prove it I would like to quote two figures. During the course of the whole of 1969, the total migration

13

was 9768 persons to West Bengal, Assam and Tripura, wh< reas this year during the first four months rom the ist January to 18th April, th;t)tal number is 26,460. This is very a normal and Pakistan's contention that fie migration is not abnormal isnotrealy correct.

SHRI BHUP'.SH GUPTA: Apart from what the G< vernment can do by way of persuading the Pakistani Government to prevent this ind of exodus, may I know why adeqi at j and effective steps are not being tab n to receive the migrants in our country vl:en they come? When they come, they ;o ne. Is it not the duty of the Governmei 11 o make special efforts and give all possi jle assistance to the West Bengal authoriti s and other authorities in Assam, so tl at they can be properly looked after and At mately rehabilitated? Mavl know, Sir whether the Government has received any kind of request for that purpose from the Assam Government and the West Benga Government and may I know whether th Government of India has mo motu sent somebody to examine on the spot the requ rements for the relief and ultimate rehabil alion of the newcomers?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH: There are a n urber of schemes for rehabilitation a id for looking after those people who com: from East Pakistan. A« far as we are iware, these people have been taken cai 1 of by the West Bengal Government as well as by the Central Government. Oar Ministry of Rehabilitation is really responsible for this work and satisfactory work is being done in this regard. There h is been no serious complaint.

श्री जगदीश प्रनाद साथूर: भारतवर्षं का विभाजन होने तथा पाकिस्तान बनने के कारण इस तरह का निष्कमण पाकिस्तान से भारतीय लोगों का हो रह है और अब तक करीब 1 करोड़ व्यक्ति पाकिस्तान से यहां आ गये हैं। तो क्या सरकार उस स्थिति पर पुनः विचार करने की आवश्यकता प्रतीत करती है जो सरदार पटेल ने जब वे भारत के गृह मंत्री थे और जब उनके समय में भारी मात्रा में निष्क्रमण हुआ या तो उन्होंने पाकिस्तान को धमकी दी थी कि अगर आपने इस निष्क्रमण को नहीं रोका तो हम भूमि की गांग करेंगे। अब उसके बाद भी जब भारी मात्रा में निष्क्रमण शरू हो गया

है, तो क्या सरकार उस स्थिति में है कि वह पाकिस्तान से कहे कि जिस मात्रा में वहां से आदमी आ रहे हैं उस मात्रा में उनसे भूमि मांगी जायेगी ?

श्री दिनेश सिंह : ऐसी बात हम लोग नहीं सोच रहे हैं कि पाकिस्तान से भूमि मांगी जाय उन लोगों के लिए जो कि यहां आ रहे हैं।

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: May I know from the Minister whether it is a fact that a large number of migrants from Pakistan are still staying in the border areas of West Bengal and no arrangements have been made yet for taking them to the transit camp at Mana? May I know what arrangements have been made for sending these refugees to the transit camp at Mana?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH: I have not got the correct figures as to how many are in this camp and how many have already been sent; but it is a fact that a large majority of them have gone to the rehabilitation sites. Arrangements are being made to send them to the various rehabilitation centres as early as possible.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: I do not think we should try to democratise Pakistan, but democratise ourselves. As the matter is serious and the Minister agrees that it is assuming seriousness in the border States, would he suggest a high-level meeting between the two Governments to see that this pouring of refugees into India is stopped and also try to see that both the Prime Ministers meet and take it more seriously than it has done in the last twenty years?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: We have not been able to persuade Pakistan to agree to any highlevet meeting on any subject. We have said on a number of occasions that we are willing to discuss all differences with Pakistan, but there has been no response from Pakistan to discuss these matters.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: I asked a specific question. The pouring into West Bengal of one lakh refugees is a serious matter and I wanted to know whether they have written or taken up this subject with the East Pakistan Government or the Pakistan Government as a whole. That is what I wanted to know and not the other subjects which he was mentioning-

SHRI DINESH SINGH: That was what I was trying to say that it has not been possible to persuade Pakistan to agree on any of these issues. Now, the question of taking up this issue alone has not been mooted with Pakistan, but there has not been a climate in Pakistan in which we get a favourable response to any such meeting.

SHRI N. G. GORAY: It seems that we are in a very difficult position because Pakistan is not ready to talk with us on this subject or any other subject. No military settlement is possible and no territorial adjustment is possible. Now, if that is so and if, as has been admitted by the Government, this exodus is a continuous affair, is it not the duty of the Government to make permanent arrangements to see that the refugees are accommodated as soon as possible? In view of this, I would like to know whether the Government has made any permanent arrangement for receiving and accommodating these rufugees.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: For those refugees who have come here and who are seeking permanent settlement, permanent settlement arrangements are being made.

PAK-BUILD UP ON WEST BENGAL BORDER

- *94. SHRI N. G. GORAY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :
- (a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan is building up its forces on the border of West Bengal; and
- (b) if so, what measures have been taken by the Government of India in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a) and (b) While there has been some increase in the troops strength in East Pakistan, recently, there has been no significant change in the disposition of Pakistani troops or in the pattern of their military activities on the West Bengal/East Pakistan border. All such developments having a bearing on our security have been taken note of in our defence plans.

SHRI N. G. GORAY: Just now we had an answer to the previous question. I would like to know from the Defence Minister whether this exodus has any relationship with the increased army strength in East Pakistan? Have they created any terror or any anti-Ind ian atmosphere?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: Not the army according to our information, but the

general situation there inside the country between the communities has worsened.

SHRI N. G. GORAY: Does it mean that the relations between the two communities have been vitiated recently?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: They have never been too good and there are occasions when they get worse.

SHRI K. P. MALLIKARJUNUDU: I wish to know whether it is a fact that the Pakistan infantry strength has gone up to a full armoured corps with tank regiments spread over the northern sector towards Rangpur in East Pakistan. I wish to know whether it is a fact; secondly, whether the armoured corps consists of Chinese and American tanks; if so, whether the Government is prepared to meet any emergency.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: It is true that there has been movement of Pakistani troops from West Pakistan to East Pakistan. About the actual formation that they have got, whether it is a corps or whether it is a division, it is an internal organisational matter, and I would plead with the hon. House that even if we know about the existence of a corps headquarters or divisional headquarters, we would not like Pakistan to know that we know this. We have taken note of these movements. We are afco aware of the fact that they have moved some tanks also to East Pakistan.

SHRI S. D. MISRA: The Minister is already telling Pakistan that we know.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: Mr. Misra is right. So I should be even more cautious than this

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Dharia.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY: Sir, the second part of the question is not answered. That is answerable. That has nothing to do with thefirstpart.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the Member who put the question complain. I do not want others to do that.

SHRIMTI YASHODA REDDY: It is the right of the House to seek the answer.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You should not cast reflection on the competence of the gentleman.

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: Sir, on a point of order. If the House does not feel satisfied with any part of the answer that is, I if the House thinks that a particular part