

SKBI C. D. PANDE; Not tha Hei- 1 sinki type of Peace Corps.

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI N. MENON: No, not the Helsinki type. As far as I know, it is a part of International Civil Service.

SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: There Is no doubt that the Peace Corps is doing a very good job but the general feeling is that the State Governments have got nothing to do with that and their opinion is not sought in placing them for different assignments. May I know from the hon. Minister if it is a fa'ct and if it is proposed that the State Governments may be consulted more intimately in the placement of these Peace Corps volunteers?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI N. MENON: I have already stated that the request comes from the State Government and the State Government provides certain facilities for the members of the Peace Corps.

SHRI A. D. MANI: According to the statement, a number of these volunteers are specialising in poultry and piggery. May I ask the hon. Minister whether there is some kind of consultation between the Peace Corps organisation and our Embassy in Washington regarding the subjects in which the volunteers may be usefully engaged in India?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI N. MENON: I have already said that the State Government, which is interested in having the Peace Corps workers, make a request and they say in what field they want the services oi the Peace Corps.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know how many of these volunteers have worked in our villages and whether these volunteers keep themselves in touch with the Government and do they submit any report of their work?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI N. MENON: They are all in rural areas, in areas where our own people are not willing to go and work.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know if the Government has received any complaints that the so-called Peao» Corps volunteers engage themselves in espionage activities and secondly, does the Government make sure that the F.B.I. or th_e C.I.A has no connection with their activities?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI N. MENON: It is a totally false allegation.

MINORITY COMMUNITY IN EAST PAKISTAN

f SHRI BABUBHAI M. •302. J
CHINAI: t
[SHRI RAM SINGH;

Will the Minister of EXTERNA* AFFAIRS; be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item, which appeared in "The Tribune" of 4th June, 1965, to the effect that the East Pakistan authorities havt instructed their Tehsildars not to collect any land revenue from the families belonging to minority community if any member of their families has migrated to India; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto and whether Government have taken up this matter with the Government of Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THI;
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI LAKSHMI N. MENON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of East Pakistan hag given no satisfactory replies

fThe question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Babubhai M. China!

in those cases which came to our notice and were taken up with the East Pakistan authorities.

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: What, is the total number of such minority families residing in East Pakistan and how many families ^{are} affected by Pakistan's instructions regarding collection of land revenue?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI N. MENON: I have no figures with me. If the hon. Member will give me notice, I can collect it.

SHRI K. K. SHAH: If the Government of Pakistan do not listen to our protest, may I know whether any appropriate action is thought of in retaliation?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI N. MENON: The hon. House knows that many times we have made representations to the Pakistan Government but it does not produce any results at all.

SARDAR SW ARAN SINGH: And we have no intention to retaliate in a field like this.

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरङ्गिया :
क्या श्रीमान् यह बतलायेंगे कि हम रिटैलिफ्ट भी नहीं करना चाहते हैं और करना भी नहीं चाहिये, मगर हमारे वहाँ के जो लोग हैं, उनके साथ इस तरह का दुर्व्यवहार होता है तो प्रोटेस्ट भेज देते हैं और उसका कुछ होता नहीं, तो ऐसी स्थिति में क्या आप कुछ ऐसी योजना भी सोच रहे हैं कि जिससे हम रिटैलिफ्ट न करें मगर उनका कुछ लाभ हो सके, उसको उतना कष्ट नहीं हो ?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI N. MENON: There is nothing that we can do to rectify this difficulty.

SHRI K. K. SHAH: When the hon. Minister says that there is no method of retaliation . . .

SHRI C. D. PANDE: He said there was no intention; and it is not proper also.

SHRI K. K. SHAH: Yes; when he says there is no intention, may I know why there is no intention?

SARDAR SW ARAN SINGH: I would like to understand what precise form of retaliation the hon. Member has in his mind. I hope, by now he, knowing as I do, being connected with our organisation, knows that we are working in a secular system and therefore there is no question of retaliation against our own people in this country.

श्री रामकुमार भुवालका : क्या मंत्री जी बतायेंगे कि क्या यह सच नहीं है कि 1950 से लेकर 1965 तक बंगाल के ईस्ट पाकिस्तान में बंगाल के जितने भाई वहाँ रहते हैं, उनको बहुत तकलीफ है और वहाँ से जो भाई यहाँ आये उनके लिये हमारी सरकार ने तो इतना किया, लेकिन वहाँ पर जो आदमी तकलीफ पाते हैं उसके लिये सरकार क्या सोच रही है ?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI N. MENON: This question deals with a specific matter, namely, refusal to collect revenue from families whose members have migrated to India.

SHRI BIREN ROY: Has it come to the notice of the Government that due to this non-collection of revenue many of those people have lost their properties—they have been auctioned—and have they got any record as to how many of such properties have been auctioned already?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI N. MENON: It is true that this works unfavourably to the minority community but I cannot give the figures which the hon. Member asks for.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: Sir, retaliation is no doubt inhuman and barbaric but certain consequences must have followed this order of the East Pakistan Government. May I know if Government have any scheme to protect those people or to compensate

those people for the losses that they have suffered, if they come to this country because naturally after the loss of their property they have to come to this country?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI N. MENON: This deals with families who are still in East Pakistan and whose members have migrated to India. It does not deal with people who come to India.

MR. CHAIRMAN; Mr. Ram Sahai.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: Sir, my question has not been answered.

MR. CHAIRMAN; I will give you a chance again; I have already called Mr. Ram Sahai.

श्री राम सहाय : क्या मैं यह जान सकूंगा कि जो व्यक्ति इस प्रकार वहाँ सताये जाते हैं और वहाँ से यहाँ भाग आते हैं, उनकी प्रापटी का या जायदाद का वहाँ क्या प्रबंध होता है ?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI N. MENON: I have no information what arrangements have been made; I will have to find out.

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: The hon. Minister said that we did not have any intention to act in retaliation but certainly we can pay compensation to the families who come from Pakistan. Is there any intention of the Government to do so?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: Sir, the House is no doubt aware that there was arrangement for paying compensation to the non-Muslim migrants who came from West Pakistan but in East Pakistan there is no scheme for compensation because the property continued to vest in those people who are still there and this matter has been discussed more than once and this is the policy that has always been followed with regard to persons belonging to the minority community in East Pakistan.

(-Many hon. Members stood up.) : .

MR. CHAIRMAN: I notice that Members have not been able to appreciate my request made last time that they should, impose on themselves some sort of a self-denying ordinance on their curiosity because if I allow everybody who wants to put a question to do so, I will be able to take up not more than five questions. It seems I have not succeeded. I would next try to allow everybody to put a question so that Members can experience how much business they can do.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: Sir, my question was not replied to. My question was this. When this order of the East Pakistan Government becomes effective, the land is sold and the families are deprived of their source of livelihood. In the circumstances, they have to seek their source of livelihood outside East Pakistan. In such a situation it is but natural that they come over to this country. In such cases would the Government try to rehabilitate them and compensate them for the loss of the property that they have suffered?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: The hon. Member is no doubt aware that persons who have to migrate to India from East Pakistan under circumstances which are deplorable are looked after and rehabilitation benefits are given to those who are in need of them but, as I have already mentioned, there is no scheme for compensation.

SHRI G. H. VALIMOHMED MO-MIN: Have some persons renounced Pakistan citizenship and have they been granted Indian citizenship? Are those people of the minority community from East Pakistan who have come here accepted as Indian nationals if they renounce Pakistan citizenship?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: That is a legalistic matter. When a person comes from there and seeks refuge

here—I do not think there is any formal renouncement of the citizenship rights—he is just on our hands and we have to look after him and after some time automatically according to the rules that obtain here he becomes an Indian citizen.

SHRI G. M. MIR: I like to this fantastic order of the Pakistan authorities, a large number of members of the minority community there have been affected and the hon. Minister says that they have lodged protests with the Government of Pakistan but no satisfactory reply has been given by Pakistan Government. May I know whether this has been brought to the notice of the United Nations or not?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: No, Sir. This is not brought to the notice of the United Nations because the United Nations can do precious little in a matter like this. It is a very difficult matter which gives us a lot of anxiety and great deal of concern. A continuous pressure on the non-Muslim minorities in East Pakistan is a matter of grave concern but it is one of those matters for which there is no easy solution.

PANDIT S. S. N. TANKHA: We have just been told by the Minister of External Affairs that when a minority community member comes away here from Pakistan, and the rest of his family still resides in East Pakistan, the property continues to vest in such members. If the property continues to vest in the family and that family is still residing in East Pakistan, how is it then that the property is sold?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I do not know why it is sold and how it is sold and I have not said that it is sold, but the hon. Member would, no doubt, be aware that according to certain revenue laws—some of which we are even familiar with in our own country—non-payment of revenue dues does give the right to the revenue authorities to auction the pro-

perty. In this case, what unfortunately is often done is that even if some members of the family are there and one person has migrated, they do not accept payment of dues on behalf of the absentee, who is not there and, therefore, on that pretext they put the property to auction.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that it is very common with the East Pakistan authorities that they first level such charges knowing full well that the person is not there and then they auction the property—the entire property is auctioned, not a particular share—with the result that

live there suffer a great deal? Now, in view of this may I know whether these matters are discussed at the diplomatic and other levels?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I do not know whether the property of those who are still there is known to have been auctioned in these cases. I have already mentioned that in those cases where payment of land revenue has been refused, we have taken up the cases with the authorities concerned and in some cases we have succeeded in getting some relief for them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am disappointed that there is no more question.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Your wise counsel is being followed.

•308. [The questioners (Shri A. B. Vajpayee and Shri R. S. Khandekar) were absent. For answer, vide cols. 2055-2056 infra.]

COMMITTEE ON CINEMATOGRAPH FILMS

•304. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have appointed a committee regarding cinematograph films, in terms of non-