

MR. CHAIRMAN: He wants to know whether it is correct or not.

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: My previous answer can give some satisfaction on that score. But actually the data reveal that there is a discrepancy and that the consumer is paying a higher price in some cases than what is shown by the data.

चीन द्वारा युद्धबंदियों का छोड़ा जाना

*४८. { श्री राम सहाय ‡:
श्री पन्नालाल सरावगी :
श्री अर्जुन अरोड़ा :

क्या प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारतीय थल सेना के सैनिकों तथा पदाधिकारियों के छोड़े जाने के बारे में क्या सरकार को चीन से कोई ऑफिशियल सूचना मिली है, और यदि हां, तो इसके बारे में क्या व्यवस्था की गई है ;

(ख) अब तक कितने सैनिक तथा पदाधिकारी भारत आ गये हैं और कितने अभी छोड़े जाने हैं; और

(ग) उनके साथ वहां जो व्यवहार किया गया उसके सम्बन्ध में उन्होंने क्या सूचना दी है ?

‡[RELEASE OF P.O.Ws. BY CHINA

{ SHRI RAM SAHAJ:
*48. { SHRI PANNALAL SARAOGI:
SHRI ARJUN ARORA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any official communication from China about the release of soldiers and officers of the Indian army and if so, what arrangements have been made in this connection;

(b) how many soldiers and officers have since arrived in India and how many still remain to be released; and

(c) what report they have given in regard to the treatment meted out to them there?]

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE
PRODUCTION IN THE MINISTRY OF
DEFENCE (SHRI K. RAGHURAMIAH):

(a) Yes, Sir. They are being released by the Chinese Red Cross and taken over by the Indian Red Cross at the appointed times and places. Our Red Cross teams which are being sent to receive the repatriated prisoners are equipped with medical and other facilities. The sick and wounded are lifted by helicopter and the remaining persons are generally brought on foot to the nearest airfield, from where they are taken to the Reception Camp by air or rail.

(b) 275 persons have arrived in India and 2,938 persons still remain to be released.

(c) It is not in the public interest to disclose this information at present.

§[प्रतिरक्षा मंत्रालय में प्रतिरक्षा उत्पादन मंत्री (श्री के० रघुमैया) : (क) जी हां। वह चीनी रेड क्रॉस द्वारा विमुक्त किये जा रहे हैं और भारतीय रेड क्रॉस द्वारा पूर्वनिश्चित समयों और स्थानों पर संभाले जा रहे हैं। देश को लौटाये जाने वाले इन बन्धियों को लेने के लिए अपने जो रेड-क्रॉस दल भेजे जा रहे हैं, वह चिकित्सा संबंधी तथा अन्य सुविधाओं से सज्जित है। रुग्ण और घायलों को प्रायः हेलिकॉप्टरों द्वारा लाया जाता है, और दूसरे व्यक्तियों को पैदल निकटतम हवाई अड्डे तक, जहां से उन्हें विमानों अथवा रेल द्वारा आदानागार तक ले जाया जाता है।

‡The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Ram Sahai.

‡[] English translation.

§ [] Hindi translation.

(ख) २७५ व्यक्ति भारत पहुंच चुके हैं, और २,६३८ अभी विमुक्त किये जाने हैं ।

(ग) यह सूचना प्रकट करना लोकहित में नहीं है ।]

SHRI PANNALAL SARAOGI: May I know whether the release of Indian prisoners of war is in any way linked with the repatriation of the Chinese internees by the Government of India?

SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH: No, Sir.

SHRI PANNALAL SARAOGI: The Government of China has been releasing our soldiers, but I understand that simultaneously our officers are not being released, and is it a fact, Sir, that because some of the Chinese internees have refused to go back to China the Government of China is taking the plea that our officers do not want to go back to India?

SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH: Answering the first part of the question it is not true, Sir, that officers are not being released. In fact, of the 275 there were 2 officers in that group. As to the other questions I do not know whether they concern the Ministry of Defence.

श्री राम सहाय : जितने सैनिक छोड़े गये हैं और जितने अधिकारी छोड़े गये हैं, वे अनुपात से ठीक है या अधिकारी कम छोड़े गये हैं ।

SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH: Officers are always fewer in number.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

INCREASE IN PROVIDENT FUND CONTRIBUTION IN CEMENT INDUSTRY

*41. SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Provident Fund contribution has been increased from 6½% to 8% in cement industry; and

(b) if so, whether any technical enquiry was made into the capacity of the industry before increasing the rate?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT AND FOR PLANNING (SHRI C. R. PATTABHI RAMAN):

(a) Yes; from 1st April, 1963, in the establishments employing 50 or more persons.

(b) An enquiry was made from the Central Ministries concerned and the State Governments before the rate was increased to 8%.

REDUCTION IN EXPENDITURE IN VIEW OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY

*45. SHRI R. N. KAKATI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to reduce the expenditure on various heads of accounts in the Prime Minister's Secretariat in view of the national emergency; and

(b) the amount of anticipated saving as a result thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b) As a result of the declaration of emergency and the setting up of the National Defence Fund, the volume of work handled by the Prime Minister's Secretariat during the last six months was almost double the normal work. This was managed mainly by borrowing staff from other offices and only