

(ख) २७५ व्यक्ति भारत पहुँच 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 हैं 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 6J% 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