

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: May I ask the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that there is hardly a single Hindu left in West Punjab who has not been converted to Islam?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: No, Sir. I would not say that. There are Hindus in West Pakistan, including West Punjab.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: Is it not a fact that there has been a wholesale conversion of Hindus?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Satyacharan.

SHRI SATYACHARAN: From the reply given by the hon. Minister it appears that the Pakistan Government have not at all cared for our communications sent to them regarding forcible conversions. In the context of these communications, Sir, may I hope that the hon. Minister will follow a tougher line and enlighten the House about the consequences that we are going to face?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: Sir, I do not know what the hon. Member means by 'tougher line'. When these things come to our notice, we bring them to the notice of the Pakistan Government and we expect them to take action in that respect.

SHRI SATYACHARAN: What I meant to say, Sir, was this: Ordinarily, the diplomatic traditions are that whenever a communication is sent by one Government to the other, it should be replied to. But I understand from your statement that in spite of our numerous communications to them, they have never cared to reply to any of them. That is why I pleaded for a tougher line so that our position may also be vindicated.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister has referred only to this recent event. He was not sure about the previous ones. In this case no reply has been received. Is that what you have said?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: Yes, Sir.

SHRI P. N. SAPRU: When did this fact come to your notice, that there were forcible conversions?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: Sir, this is supposed to have taken place in March, throughout the end of March, and we sent them a note in April—this April—and we have not yet received any reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

#### RADIO TELEPHONY

\*152. SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether radio telephony is being used in the army in communications between the staff and commanders and observers in the field; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to use this means of communication?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Radio Telephony is used extensively throughout the chain of Command, to provide communications between the Commanders, Staff and the Units under Command.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: May I know whether the equipments for this purpose are fully manufactured in India?

SHRI D. R. CHAVAN: Some of the equipments are being manufactured in the Bharat Electronics, some are not being manufactured.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: Will I be right in saying that there is some sort of self-sufficiency achieved in this respect?

SHRI D. R. CHAVAN: Steps are being taken to achieve self-sufficiency in this respect.