

INTERNEES IN THE DEOLI CAMP

•248. SHRI J. S. PILLAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the present number of the internees at the Deck' camp who refused to go to China?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R. M. HAJARNAVIS): 595.

SHRI J. S. PILLAI: What are the reasons given by these internees for refusing to go to China?

SHRI R. M. HAJARNAVIS: No reasons were given. They do not want to go and we do not force them to go.

SHRI J. S. PILLAI: Are they prepared to go to Formosa?

SHRI R. M. HAJARNAVIS: We did not ask them. They wanted to remain in this country.

SHRI SYED AHMAD: May I know how many detenus there were in the camp?

SHRI R. M. HAJARNAVIS: 1654 plus 595; that comes to 2249.

SHRI N. C. KASLIWAL: Are these 595 internees who refused to go to China still being kept in the Deoli camp or has the Deoli camp been now closed?

SHRI R. M. HAJARNAVIS: No, Sir. It is not yet closed. We are trying to see how many of them can be allowed to go without security risk to the country. We would like to close the camp as soon as possible.

SHRI A. D. MANI: With regard to the refusal of the internees who are here in the camp, did they record a statement or merely made an oral statement that they do not want to go back to China? I believe that a Chinese Consular official was also present at that time. I want to know whether the statements were recorded.

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: I am sorry I cannot exactly say if a proper statement was recorded but I know it for a fact that very careful verification was made from all of them and those who were quite clear that they will stay in India and will not go back to China have been retained.

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरङ्गिया :
क्या श्रीमान यह बतलायेंगे कि जो कैदी वापस चाइना नहीं जाना चाहते हैं उनका क्या किया जाने वाला है, उनको सिटीजन-शिप के राइट्स दिये जाने वाले हैं या उनका क्या उपयोग किया जाने वाला है, ? क्या आप यह बताने का कष्ट करेंगे ?

श्री लाल बहादुर : अब जो यहां रहना चाहते हैं उन के बारे में हम पता लगायेंगे । ज्यादातर तो ऐसे हैं कि उनका अपना कुछ काम बाहर रहा है, किसी न किसी तरह की तिजारत या छोटी-मोटी इंडस्ट्री का काम करते रहे हैं और सभी ऐसे हैं कि अगर उनको बाहर जाने का मौका दिया जाय तो वह अपने पुराने काम में लग जायेंगे । अब यह हम नहीं कह सकते कि उनको कब छोड़ा जायेगा लेकिन जिनके बारे में हमें संतोष है कि उनसे किसी तरह का खतरा नहीं है उनको हम छोड़ने के लिये विचार कर रहे हैं ।

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: Is it a fact that such of these people who have refused to leave India have done so for the reason that the present China Government has been following international goondaism, perfidy and all that sort of thing?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: This was not discussed with them but their refusal to go back to China indicates that the present policy of the Chinese Government is not acceptable to them, but as I said, it is an inference. In my talks also with them I could see that they were quite clear and that they were happy to remain in India because they found that India was a free country and had a democratic set-up.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: Very recently the hon. Home Minister paid a visit to this camp. Is it a fact that when he met these people there they were very happy at getting good treatment and all the facilities inside the camp and is it also a fact that they were shocked at the propaganda that China led against their treatment?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: I did not hear the latter part of the question. As for the first part, of course, it is true that they were exceedingly happy; especially, I found the women and children fully satisfied with the arrangements made and the facilities provided in the camp.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know for how long these detenus were in India before they were interned?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: They have been here for a very very long time, 10, 15, 20, 30 years and maybe earlier than that even. They had their shops. For example, about 203 people including their dependents were engaged in the shoe and leather business. Petty business, restaurants, carpentry, they were doing that kind of work for years.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next Question, Mr. Mani.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Sir, before I put the question I would like to draw your attention to the heading of the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The heading has been corrected.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: Not in the copies that we have received.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I dare say the answer would not be about women but about English.

SHRI A. D. MANI: 249, Sir.

HOME MINISTER'S STATEMENT REGARDING CONTINUANCE OF ENGLISH

•249. SHRI A. D. MANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had stated at the meeting of the Southern Zonal Council in Hyderabad on May 28, 1963 that English would continue to be used for the official purposes of the Union and no time limit had been fixed for the same; and

(b) if so, what was the context in which he made the statement and what is the precise formulation of that statement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R. M. HAJARNAVIS): (a) Yes.

(b) The statement was made during a review of the general situation prevailing in the country. Relevant extracts are laid on the Table of the House.

Extracts from the statement made by the Union Home Minister in the meeting of the Southern Zonal Council held at Hyderabad on 23-5-1963

It means that English will continue and no time limit has been fixed for the same. There is provision for setting up a committee after ten years to review the progress of Hindi and other aspects of the problem. It would not be a Parliamentary Committee as such. The report will be submitted to the President and it would also be sent to the State Governments. The State Governments will express their views. It was also mentioned in Parliament that the report should be sent to State Legislatures but it was generally felt that it should be sent to the State Governments and it would be for the State Governments to consult their legislatures or not. So, it provides for the report being sent to the State Governments and the President will cause the report to be laid on the table of the House and it will also be discussed in Parliament and after consulting the