

HAJ PELGRIMS

*464. SHRI ANSARUDDIN AHMAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) what is the number of applications made to Mughal Lines by Indian Muslims all over the country intending to do Haj pilgrimage this year for booking their passages to Saudi Arabia in their ships;

(b) how many applications were rejected on the ground of want of accommodation and how many on other grounds; and

(c) what is the foreign exchange allotted by Government to Indian Muslims for performance of Haj pilgrimage this year and in the previous year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) 20,405.

(b) Out of these 4,545 applications were rejected on grounds of non availability of accommodation and non-fulfilment of prescribed conditions. Break-up of these figures are not readily available.

(c) 1962—Rs. 1,200 per pilgrim;
1963—Rs. 1,000 per pilgrim.

SHRI ANSARUDDIN AHMAD: How does the number of Haj pilgrims visiting Saudi Arabia this year compare with that of last year?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: This year 15,000 pilgrims will be visiting as against, I think, 21,000 last year.

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT: May I know, Sir, whether the Government is aware that the foreign exchange allotted to each pilgrim is very low, and will the Government consider increasing the allotment to each Haj pilgrim?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: No, Sir. The Government are considering lowering the figures still more for the

simple reason that in these days of acute foreign exchange shortage, we have to be very careful. As a matter of fact—I have not got the figures—the Government of Pakistan, from where a large number of pilgrims go, have reduced the foreign exchange very much, to less than what we have been giving.

श्री अ - अ - अ - अ - अ :
 ये जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या हुकूमत को इस बात का इल्म है कि हिन्दुस्तान से जो हाजियों की तादाद इस बार गई है वह हमारे हमसाये इस्लामी मुल्कों से करीबन करीबन ज्यादा है; और क्या यह भी दुस्त है कि जो फारेन एक्सचेंज हमारे यहां दिया गया है वह उन मुल्कों से कम नहीं है? दूसरी बात मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या हुकूमत को इस बात का भी इल्म है कि और मुल्कों में हाजी लाटरी के जरिये भेजे गये और हिन्दुस्तान में यह तरीका इस्तेमाल नहीं किया गया।

†[श्री ए० एम० तारिक : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या हुकूमत को इस बात का इल्म है कि हिन्दुस्तान से जो हाजियों की तादाद इस बार गई है वह हमारे हमसाये इस्लामी मुल्कों से करीबन करीबन ज्यादा है; और क्या यह भी दुस्त है कि जो फारेन एक्सचेंज हमारे यहां दिया गया है वह उन मुल्कों से कम नहीं है? दूसरी बात मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या हुकूमत को इस बात का भी इल्म है कि और मुल्कों में हाजी लाटरी के जरिये भेजे गये और हिन्दुस्तान में यह तरीका इस्तेमाल नहीं किया गया।]

t [] Hindi transliteration.

श्री विनेश सिंह : पहले हिस्से का जवाब है "जी हाँ"। दूसरे हिस्से का जहाँ तक ताल्लुक है, मैंने भी यह रिपोर्ट देखी है कि वहाँ लाटरी के हिसाब से लोग चुने गये हैं।

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: In view of, the fact that a large number of pilgrims have to go back for lack of accommodation, may I know whether the Government of India intend making arrangements with some other shipping line to carry more Haj pilgrims?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: There is no question of making arrangements with other lines; it is a question of foreign exchange shortage. We shall not be able to give foreign exchange to more than 15,000 people.

HOSTELS FOR C.R.O. LABOUR

◆466. DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken on the discontinuation of the present type of hostels for the Coalfields Recruitment Organisation labour in collieries and putting the workers under Coalmines Welfare Organisation;

(b) whether it has been decided to replace all the supervisory staff of these hostels and appoint new staff in their place;

(c) whether the erstwhile C.R.O. supervisory staff will be eligible to apply for the new posts under the Coalmines Welfare Organisation; and

(d) whether facilities will be provided to the labour from Uttar Pradesh to secure employment in coalmines as before?

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THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RATANLAL KISHORILAL MALVIYA); (a) to (d)

Yes.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: Will the Government be pleased to state whether the number of C.R.O. labourers in the collieries has increased during the last two years in violation of the agreement with the mining associations and (whether the employers have asked permission to 'open two more such labour camps, while the Government is busy making arrangements to close the present exclusive CRO camps and start new ones under the Coalmines Welfare Organisation, which will be open to all labour?

SHRI RATANLAL KISHORILAL MALVIYA: Yes, Sir. The number of labourers has increased within the last two years to a certain extent. The total number at present is about 15,000. It used to be approximately 13,000. So far as the other part of the question is concerned, it is a fact that five unauthorised labour camps have been opened by the employers.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: Has the Government received complaints from the unions that CRO labour is deprived of many facilities enjoyed by other labour, such as continuity of service and the right to join unions freely?

SHRI RATANLAL KISHORILAL MALVIYA: Yes, Sir. It is on this basis that the revised system has been adopted. An informal committee of the Members of Parliament was constituted to look into this question, and it submitted its report as long back as the 29th April, 1960. It made certain recommendations and an attempt is being made to implement them now.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: What are the other avenues open to CRO labour for employment other than the coalmines?