

RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, the 24th August, 1960/
the 2nd Bhadra, 1882 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*405. [The questioner (Shri Bairagi Dwibedy) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 2046-47 infra].

CLOSURE OF TEXTILE MILLS DUE TO THE SHORTAGE OF COAL

*406. SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of textile mills which remained closed on account of shortage of coal during the last six months; and

(b) the number of work days lost on this account?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT AND PLANNING (SHRI L. N. MISHRA):

(a) So far as information is available, during the period 1st January, 1960 to 30th June 1960, 9 textile mills had to close for short periods on account of shortage of coal.

(b) Number of man-days lost was about 1,45,669.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know how many of these mills are situated in Maharashtra among those that were closed?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: There were 7 in Maharashtra.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know if the workers who lost their working days got any compensation from the mills?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: This will be done according to the provisions of the law.

480 RS.—1.

*407. [The questioner (Shri Ratanlal Kishorilal Malviya) was absent. For answer, vide col. 2047-48 infra].

EXODUS OF ASIANS FROM UGANDA AND KENYA

*408. { SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI
NIGAM†:
SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have permitted any Asians of Indian origin to come to India from Uganda and Kenya and to stay here as refugees and if so, what is their number; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the shipping firms refuse to book accommodation on India bound ships until next April on account of mass exodus of Asians from Uganda to India?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) No. The Asians of Indian origin residing in Uganda and Kenya do not need any permission to come to India and stay in their motherland.

(b) No. On the contrary, according to the Manager of the Eastern Shipping Corporation at Mombasa, the "State of Bombay" on her July sailing left for Bombay with only 178 passengers on board as compared to the total capacity of 901. 723 berths were, therefore, vacant. On her next sailing on 15th August, the ship left Mombasa for Bombay again with over 300 vacant berths. Similarly the B.I.S.N. boats "Amra" and "Kampala" which sailed from Mombasa for Bombay on the 3rd and 16th August respectively had ample vacant accommodation.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know if these people who are coming are coming in a regular way or they are coming because of disturbed conditions there?

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Savitry Devi Nigam.

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: There is some panic but it is exaggerated in the papers.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know if the Government has received any complaints from any person of Indian origin that the life and property there are not safe?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: We have not received any complaint but there is a certain amount of fear and uncertainty owing to the happenings in Congo and other places.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know the actual number of people who arrived here during the year 1958-59 and those who arrived in the last 3 or 4 months?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I have no information.

श्री पी० ना० राजभोज : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी कृपा करके बतायेंगे कि क्या यह बात सच है कि भारतीय लोग कीनिया और उगांडा छोड़ रहे हैं और भारत में आ रहे हैं? अगर ऐसा है, तो इसका कारण क्या है?

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू : इसका तो अभी जवाब दे दिया गया। यही मसाल था, जिसका जवाब दिया जा चुका है, और आप उसको दोहरा रहे हैं। पहली बात यह है कि वे नहीं आ रहे हैं। कीनिया, उगांडा और हिन्दुस्तान में आमद-ब-रफ्त रहती है, लोग आते हैं और जाते हैं, और इस में कोई संदेह नहीं कि मुस्क में जो खबरें घाना से आईं, उन से कुछ परेशानी लोगों को हुई, लेकिन इतनी नहीं हुई कि बहुत लोग यहां आये। जैसा कि अभी कहा गया, बहुत सारे जहाज वहां से खाली आ रहे हैं। उनमें जगहें होती हैं और अगर लोग चाहते तो आ सकते थे।

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: I would like to know whether the attention of the Minister has been drawn to the leader in the 'Times of

India', Delhi edition, dated the 9th instant, where some apprehension with regard to the expansion of self-government have been given as the cause of the Indians leaving Uganda and Kenya?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: No, I have not read that leader but as I have already answered the question, I do not know what the leader contained. So I cannot say anything about it. There is some apprehension that the whole of Africa is in a state of ferment and turmoil and nobody knows what developments may take place in the various places. So there is some apprehension but it is gross exaggeration to say that that apprehension has led to large numbers of Indians to leave or that they are intending to leave.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: May I know if our Missions in these countries have been instructed to see that there is no unnecessary exodus because of the temporary uncertainty and anxiety on the part of people of Indian origin there?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: Naturally that is the function of the Missions.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: May I know if Government have any information about the number of Indians who were residents of Congo when Congo became free and the number of Indians residing there now?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I want notice for that question.

INDIANS IN EAST AFRICA

*409. **SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the feeling of great insecurity and panic prevailing among the people of Indian origin in Africa, particularly in East Africa;