

allocated. The entire question has been referred to the Tariff Commission for taking a final decision.

DR. R. B. GOUR: In that case, Sir, if the retention price is reduced, will it be given any retrospective effect?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: That cannot be foreseen today, but the real point is that the price of zinc plays a very very small part in the total retention price either of pig-iron or of any category of steel. As against the total production of Rs. 75 to 100 crores, the quantity of zinc consumed by both these factories is hardly worth Rs. 50 lakhs.

#### ATTACK ON HINDUS BY MUSLIMS IN DISTRICT THATTA IN WEST PAKISTAN

\*196. SHRI J. H. JOSHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a press report to the effect that some Hindus were attacked and their houses looted and razed to the ground by Muslims in District Thatta in West Pakistan towards the end of May, 1958; and

(b) if so, what action was taken by Government in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The High Commission of India, Karachi, promptly brought this communal incident to the notice of the Government of Pakistan who were asked to investigate into the incident and also to punish the culprits.

SHRI J. H. JOSHI: What is the result of that investigation?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Sir, we have not received a final reply. But in the meantime, a Press Note was issued and it was stated that the press reports presumably referred to the Baloch and Jogis trouble at Mirpursakro Taluqa three weeks earlier

and that the Jogis who were mistaken to be Hindus were in fact Muslims belonging to a nomad tribe of Kalka Faqirs. There was no death or injuries caused due to the alleged clash and the 7 Jogis arrested were released.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Sir, Yogis are not Hindus?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Jogis, not Yogis.

SHRI J. H. JOSHI: May I know, Sir, how many displaced persons belonging to the minority community have left their homes and property in West Pakistan and have come over to India—in the year 1957-58—as a result of such attacks, lootings and abductions?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I want notice for that.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I would like to know whether these Hindus are Pakistani nationals or Indian nationals?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Pakistani nationals.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: May I know in what way we have protested in regard to the so-called harassment in Pakistan? Would this not entitle Pakistan to protest to us in case of alleged harassment of Muslims in India?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Sir, under the agreement the Pakistan Government is obliged to treat the minority community properly as its citizens.

SHRI J. H. JOSHI: If that agreement includes the safeguarding of economic, social and political rights and interests of the minorities, how many times such agreements have been violated and what has been done by our Government?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I am not able to answer all that.

**SHRI D. A. MIRZA:** Will these acts of hooliganism, goondaism and vandalism in Pakistan against the minorities come to an end after the proposed meeting between the two Prime Ministers?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Next question. It is hypothetical.

**SHRI D. A. MIRZA:** I wanted to know whether there is any chance of this vandalism and goondaism coming to an end.

(No reply.)

**TRANSIT FACILITIES TO GURKHA SOLDIERS  
RECRUITED IN NEPAL BY BRITISH  
AUTHORITIES**

**\*197. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gurkha soldiers recruited in Nepal by the British authorities are given any transit facilities through India;

(b) if so, what is the nature of these facilities; and

(c) for how long Government propose to extend the facilities?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON):** (a) and (b). Yes; Government of India have allowed the British authorities to use their two depots at Lehra and Jalapahar for the purposes of transit, X-ray screening, collection and staging of parties of recruits to Calcutta. There is also a small transit camp at Barrackpore near Calcutta.

(c) This is purely a temporary arrangement till the British complete the construction of their depot at Dharan in Nepal. In fact, the British Depot at Jalapahar is expected to be closed this year.

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:** It is a shocking reply, Sir. May I know for how long these facilities have been extended to these British forces and

whether in view of what is happening in Singapore, the Government would even at this hour, consider it necessary to stop the extending of such facilities to the British?

**SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU:** This question has been answered previously on many occasions. It was an agreement, tripartite agreement, between Nepal, the British Government and the Government of India. It is very difficult for us unilaterally to get out of it but we have laid stress all the time on the fact that we don't wish to have such arrangements on Indian territory but I may make it clear that there is no recruitment in the Indian territory, there is no training in the Indian territory. There is only an agreement by us to allow these people recruited in Nepal to go without arms across Indian territory and as stated in the answer to this question, to be screened, X-rayed and medically examined and the like, which normally would not be objected to. Nevertheless because of its connection with this recruitment—and we have not liked it—we have tried not to have that done at all in our territory. Unfortunately this matter has dragged on for years. The hon. Member is perfectly justified in saying how long this has taken. But we are assured that at any rate one of these depots will be closed by the end of this year.

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:** It is quite clear from the report and even from official information that comes from Britain that these recruits are taken into the British Expeditionary Force in Malaya and that particular Force is very directly linked with the SEATO. I would like to know whether in view of these things—SEATO etc—which I don't think represent any good agreement or any such thing between India and Britain, whether in view of such things and developments, the Government would not be justified in abrogating this agreement and preventing not only recruitment but also any facilities for transit through India of such Forces?