

**Shri Kanungo:** While the Jute Commission's report was discussed and resolution was passed, it was found that it was not necessary to do so.

### Indian Detenus in Pakistan

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\*152% { **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:**  
**Shri Raghunath Singh:**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India's attention has been drawn to a statement reported to have been made by the Minister for Interior of Pakistan before the National Assembly at Karachi on March 5, 1958 to the effect that there were two Indian nationals under detention under the Security of Pakistan Act;

(b) if so, what are the actual facts about this matter; and

(c) the steps so far taken to secure the release of these two Indian nationals?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):**

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are three persons in detention in Pakistan namely Sarvashri Beli Ram, Lal Chand and Ajudhiya Nath.

Sarvashri Beli Ram and Lal Chand joined the D.A.V. College Transit Camp, Lahore for evacuation to India in June 1953. They were arrested by Pakistan Police on 22nd October 1953 on a charge of spying and they have since been under detention in Pakistan under the Security of Pakistan Act.

Government of India got information from Shri Ajudhiya Nath's wife in March, 1957 that he was under arrest in Pakistan.

(c) Our High Commission at Karachi took up Shri Ajudhiya Nath's case with the Government of Pakistan but that Government asked for information about the place and the District where Shri Ajudhiya Nath was reported to have been arrested or de-

tained. Efforts to obtain this information from his wife did not prove fruitful. Our High Commission in Karachi are taking up the matter again as it is now confirmed in the statement made by the Pakistan Minister for the Interior that Shri Ajudhiya Nath is in detention in Pakistan.

Our Deputy High Commissioner at Lahore took up the case of Sarvashri Beli Ram and Lal Chand with the West Pakistan Government in March, 1955. He was informed that due consideration had been given to their cases but that it had been decided to continue them in detention.

**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:** May I know if we have any information as regards the treatment in Pakistan jail, because Press reports have said that treatment in Pakistan jails is not at all what it should be?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** We do not have any more information than what has appeared in the Press about the treatment in Pakistan jails.

**Shri Hem Barua:** The hon. Deputy Minister has just now stated that the Pakistan Government has informed us that they are being detained. Has the Pakistan Government given us the reasons for their decision to detain these people?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** It is already stated in the answer that they have been detained for alleged spying.

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** May I know whether our High Commissioner in Karachi has gone into the grounds of detention and whether he at least is satisfied that there are some grounds on which detention can be made?

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** I imagine not; it is not right. The High Commissioner concerned can draw their attention to these matters. But he cannot compel the Pakistan Government to show him all the papers and other things. It is a matter of courtesy.