

under the consideration of Government that the displaced persons who are no better than the refugees will be given top priority for being rehabilitated in that area?

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** I am still a Rehabilitation Minister, and I look after the interests of the displaced persons.

**Shri Braj Raj Singh:** What is this reply, Sir?

**Mr. Speaker:** It is the same reply as before.

#### Repatriation of Portuguese Nationals

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\*134 { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**  
**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:**  
**Shri P. G. Deb:**  
**Shri P. C. Borooah:**  
**Shri Harish Chandra**  
**Mathur:**  
**Shri Agadi:**  
**Shri Balraj Madhok:**  
**Shri Bibhuti Mishra:**  
**Shri Raghunath Singh:**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether a note has been sent to the Portuguese Government regarding repatriation of Portuguese nationals from Goa, Diu and Daman and the release of Indian travellers detained in Lisbon while in transit and also regarding release of Indian nationals interned in Portuguese territories and restoration of their property; and

(b) if so, the nature of the reply received, if any?

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

(a) and (b). The Government of India have had considerable correspondence with the Government of Portugal on these matters through the intermediacy of the Governments of the United Arab Republic and Brazil. The last Indian note was dated the 26th of February, 1962. Press reports indicate that the Government of Portugal have sent a reply in the beginning of this month, presumably

through the Government of Brazil. This note has not yet been received by the Government of India.

Five Indian nationals who were detained by Portuguese authorities while in transit through Lisbon have been released.

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** May I add something to this answer? Or rather, may I supplement this? The note referred to, namely the one addressed by the Portuguese Government through the Government of Brazil to us has, I understand, arrived this morning. I have not myself seen it. But that is what I am told. So, I want to correct that statement. It does not carry very much further, as far as I understand. They tie up the return of the Portuguese detenus here to their sending Indians from Mozambique here. The two are entirely apart and separate. I do not see why they should tie up the two.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know whether the Portuguese Government have conveyed their attitude one way or the other about the release of Indian nationals who have been interned in Portuguese territory and restoring to them their property?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** That was what I referred to just now.

**Mr. Speaker:** He has said that it is no good tying up the one with the other.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** That was a part of the question which I put.

**Mr. Speaker:** He has already replied to it.

**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:** Is it not a fact that passengers travelling on international airlines have certain provisions for safety, and if so, has that rule not been violated by making these passengers disembark?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** No doubt, they have those rules. But there was no Indian line passing through Portugal. No Indian line goes through

Portugal. There was some foreign line that went through it. No doubt, the same rules apply to all lines, Indian or foreign. A protest was made by the people concerned, and I think the foreign country concerned also made a protest to Portugal about it.

**Shri Tyagi:** May I know the total number of Indian travellers detained in Lisbon, and how this number compares with the Portuguese stationed as a whole in Goa and Daman?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** In the main answer it has been stated that there are five Indians who were detained, and they have been released.

The number of Indians detained run to thousands in Mozambique and Angola. There is no comparison between the two.

**Shri Tyagi:** Shall I take it that thousands of Indians have been detained there?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Indian merchants and others in Mozambique and Angola run into some thousands. And they have been kept, in a sense, detained in some kind of camp or the other, ever since the Goa operation. It is apparently the intention of the Portuguese Government to send back some proportion of them; I cannot exactly say what proportion, but it is a fairly considerable proportion.

**Shri Hem Barua:** May I know whether the Indian nationals in Mozambique and Angola are detained as a reprisal against our operation in Goa, or whether this has been tied up with the release of the Portuguese soldiers detained in Goa, Daman and Diu?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I have just stated that there is no question of tying up. Actually, the attitude that we have taken right from the beginning is that the Portuguese detained here, the Portuguese soldiery and a few civilian persons connected with the Portuguese Army can go away. We want nothing in exchange. They

can take them away and make arrangements to take them away. In fact, we went further and after a while, when there was some delay, we told these people that they can go away on their own steam; we did not want to detain them, and they can go; we shall put them, at any port in India, or in any boat or in any ship that comes to take them away. So, it has no connection with the other matter.

**Shri C. D. Pande:** The Prime Minister has made the position clear on behalf of India, namely that we do not want to tie it up with the other question. May I know whether the Portuguese Government have taken the same view or not, and whether there is any move on their part to release our nationals from Mozambique?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I have not, as I said, seen the last letter which has come this morning, or may be, last night. But I was told that they connect the two together. They say apparently that they will see back by ship some Indians, and the same ships will take back the Portuguese detenus here.

**Shri P. G. Deb:** May I know why Government are not insisting on general reciprocal arrangement regarding Indian nationals interned in Portuguese colonies all over?

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member wants to know why the two are not linked.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I have just ventured to say that far from our insisting on any such thing, even our unilateral offer that they should take them back has not been accepted thus far.

**Shri Hem Barua:** In regard to this offer by Portugal to send our for middle class employees and steps nationals in their colonies in ships, and then take back those Portuguese nationals in Goa, Daman and Diu, may I know the reason for not being able to achieve it in the meanwhile? What is it that stands in the way?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I could not catch the question.

**Mr Speaker:** He wants to know the reason for not taking them.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** That is for the Portuguese Government to reply to the hon. Member. How am I to tell him why they are delaying it?

**Shri Hem Barua:** I want to know whether they have specified any reasons. They have withheld our nationals in Mozambique and Angola, and they have not specified any reasons for it. Now, this offer has come. Why is it that this offer has not been put into practice so far? That is what I want to know.

**Shri Braj Raj Singh:** On an earlier occasion, the Prime Minister had stated on the floor of this House that some three thousand old Portuguese soldiery is detained in Goa, and we have got some problems created on account of their stay here. If the Portuguese Government fail to take them back on their own from Goa, will the Government of India consider the possibility of removing these persons from Goa to some other part of India, so that complete normalcy might prevail in Goa?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I believe I hinted at that in the course of what I said here the other day, that if there is any further delay, we shall remove them to some camp outside Goa.

#### Middle Class Families

\*135. **Shri H. C. Mathur:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state what note, if any, has been taken by Government, of the Survey carried out by the Central Statistical Organisation into the income and expenditure of Middle Class Families?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):** The honourable Member is presumably referring to the preliminary studies on this subject published in the Monthly Abstract of Statistics for

June, 1960 and the studies for four cities published in the Abstract for November, 1961. Complete results based on the Middle Class Family Living Survey conducted by the National Sample Survey in 1958-59 are being tabulated. The data have been collected mainly for the purpose of constructing a consumer price index for middle class employees and steps are being taken for constructing the index.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** While these statistics are being tabulated, may I know whether Government have taken any note of the fact that it is the middle class families whose budgets have been completely upset during the last few years, and there is considerable resentment amongst this section of the people, and if so, what Government's proposals are to improve their condition?

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** I can hardly put forward Government's proposals to improve the economic conditions of middle class families in answer to a question.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** May I know whether the Government have any plan for giving additional work and subsidiary income to these people?

**Mr. Speaker:** Does that arise out of the question?

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Yes, Sir. We collect statistics for a certain purpose, not only for the satisfaction of collecting statistics.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** It is obvious that this question of effect on middle class families is an important question with which the Government are deeply concerned. On the one hand, so far as statistics are concerned, they are being collected and tabulated. Even apart from that, the matter is constantly being considered.

**Shri Morarka:** May I know how is it that figures collected in 1958-59 are