

## INDIANS ARRESTED IN SOUTH AFRICA

\*394. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of persons of Indian origin who have been arrested and sentenced so far in connection with the campaign against Apartheid in South Africa;

(b) whether reports of inhuman treatment having been meted out to them have been received by Government; and

(c) in how many cases persons arrested have been punished with whipping?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** (a) Separate figures showing the number of persons of Indian origin arrested in the passive resistance campaign in South Africa, are not available. The total number of non-European volunteers reported arrested so far is over 7,000.

(b) Reports of severe sentences and harsh treatment meted out to passive resisters, police excesses and intimidation have been received.

(c) No information about the number of persons punished with whipping has been received.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know under what laws these *satyagrahis* are being punished?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** The laws generally operating are what are known as the Apartheid Policy of the South African Government.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know the number of persons of Indian origin who have fallen a victim to the shooting order?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** Not any, our information.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know, Sir, whether any monetary help has so far been sent from India to these sufferers?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** Officially we have sent no money.

**Shri Syammandan Sabaya:** May I know whether Government has made any effort to find out in what way Indians have suffered in these troubles that are going on in South Africa?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** Quite a large number of Indians have been arrested and convicted. So far as shooting is concerned, we have no information about Indians being shot at.

**Shri Velayudhan:** May I know whether Government have received any suggestion to send a non-official or official delegation to South Africa of prominent Indian citizens?

**The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** We have no such intention.

**Shri Velayudhan:** I want to know whether Government have received any suggestion?

**Mr. Speaker:** This matter cannot be carried on any further. It is under the control of a foreign independent Government.

**Shri N. Sreekantan Nair:** Are the Government aware that there is a certain section in South Africa itself which is against Apartheid and whether those people are participating in the movement and if so, how many?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** We are aware of that fact, Sir, but we have not got figures of the various sections of the population there.

## COTTON TEXTILE INDUSTRY (WORKING PARTY REPORT)

\*395. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Working Party for Cotton Textile Industry has finished its work and submitted its report;

(b) what are the important recommendations made by the Party; and

(c) whether any action has been taken on the recommendation of the Party to reduce the cost of production?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The report is a voluminous one and is now being printed. It is proposed to publish the report. The recommendations made by the Working Party are being examined by Government, and necessary action thereon will be taken after Government have come to definite decisions.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know, Sir, when the report was received by the Government?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I believe about 4 months ago.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know, Sir, what are the reasons for the delay in the printing of this report in view of the fact that the Committee was appointed in June, 1950, and why the report was submitted late?