

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : The case has not been filed yet. Police investigation is going on.

Shri Kanungo : He has been produced before the court and they have remanded him to custody.

OIL PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH IRAN

***453. Th. Lakshman Singh Charak :** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have signed an agreement with the Government of Iran for purchase of oil?

(b) if so, the quantity and the value of oil to be purchased from Iran ; and

(c) whether a copy of the agreement will be laid on the Table?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri P. S. Naskar) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

RE-ENTRY OF INDIANS INTO BURMA

***454. Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy :** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Burma Government had refused the issue of fresh visas to Indians who sought re-entry into that country on the strength of time-barred visas after 1st January, 1956 ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this has resulted in a lot of inconvenience to those Indians who had to go to Burma to look after their business, profession etc ; and

(c) if the answer to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, whether Government have taken up this matter with the Government of Burma?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda) : (a) and (b). We received information recently that from January 1, 1956

Burmese consular offices in India had stopped granting fresh visas on the strength of time-barred re-entry visas.

(c) The Indian Embassy, Rangoon, has taken up the matter with the Burmese Government.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy : Is it not a fact that as a result of this stoppage of visas, the businesses of those people who are running businesses in Burma and also other people who have been serving in Burma in various professions have suffered?

Shri Anil K. Chanda : Obviously. If a man who has his business in Burma cannot go there, his business no doubt would suffer. It is because of this that we have made a formal representation to the Burmese Government.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy : Is it possible to have an agreement with the Burmese Government in respect of the granting of visas as a result of the negotiations that are being carried on by our Government with the Government of Burma?

Shri Anil K. Chanda : We have already drawn the attention of the Burmese Government. We have not received their reply yet. If the time comes for a discussion of the nature contemplated by the hon. Member, we shall do so.

Shri B. S. Murthy : May I know whether the Government is in a position to tell us the number of people affected by this new rule of the Burmese Government?

Shri Anil K. Chanda : I am not in a position to supply the number, but we have received a number of representations from South India, and I should think that the number would be quite considerable.

Sardar Iqbal Singh : May I know whether Government is aware of the fact that Indians, especially those living in areas which are not at present under the Burmese Government, are facing very great difficulties in getting visas and otherwise in coming