

**Englishmen Adrift in the Indian Ocean**

**2810. Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two penniless Englishmen were adrift in the Indian Ocean (Bay of Bengal) for 32 days and were rescued by a passing ship and were left in Nicobar Island where an Indian trader gave them shelter for two months; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):**

(a) and (b). Four British nationals were found adrift in a small open boat in the Bay of Bengal near Carnicobar on the 12th February, 1962, by the vessel m.v. "Safeena" belonging to private traders and brought to Carnicobar. They held valid British passports. According to their statements, they sailed from Chittagong on the 10th January, 1962 and were on their way to Penang. Among their possessions were personal clothes, two cameras, 40 dollars in American currency, 50 sterling in travellers cheques, and Rs. 12½ in Pakistani currency. Three of them had left England on the 25th October, 1961 and desired to proceed to Australia. The 4th person joined them at Chittagong who desired to go to Singapore. They were lodged with a private trading company at Carnicobar. The question of arranging their repatriation from Carnicobar was immediately taken up with the U.K. High Commission in India and they left Carnicobar for Singapore by the Royal New Zealand Air Force Plane on the 12th April, 1962.

**Psychological Counselling Centre, Baroda**

**2811. Shri Subodh Hansda:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) how the Psychological Counselling Centre for the students of M.S. University of Baroda is working;

(b) whether it has been able to throw any light on the problem of students' indiscipline; and

(c) whether it has been able to solve this problem?

**The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali):** (a). The Centre is functioning satisfactorily.

(b) and (c). The scheme of psychological counselling is still in its formative stage and it is too early to draw positive conclusions on the complex problem of student indiscipline.

**Chinese Dry Cleaners' And 'Dyers' in Calcutta**

**2812. Shri Himatsingka:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of Chinese 'Dry Cleaners' and 'Dyers' is increasing very rapidly in all parts of Calcutta;

(b) whether any account has been taken of their activities; and

(c) whether Government propose to take any steps to check their activities?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** (a) According to the information available there were 32 such shops in Calcutta in 1953. Between 1954 and 1960 fifty such new shops were opened as detailed below:

(1) 4 in 1954.

(2) 15 in 1955.

(3) 13 in 1956.

(4) 8 in 1957.

(5) 5 in 1958.

(6) 4 in 1959.

(7) 1 in 1960 (since closed down). No new shop has been opened after 1960.

(b) and (c). Yes, this is already being done.