

Pakistani Envoy In Calcutta Hoists Flag Of Bangla Desh

Calcutta, India, April 18 (AP)—The Pakistani deputy high commissioner here hoisted the green, red and gold flag of Bangla Desh over his office today. His was the first Pakistani diplomatic mission to support the newly proclaimed independent Bengali republic.

The deputy high commissioner, Houssain Ali, an East Pakistani, announced the mission's new allegiance in a ceremony in which the flag was raised over

the building in central Calcutta to the cheers of the staff members.

"As head of this diplomatic mission, I declare today my total and unequivocal allegiance to the independent, sovereign and democratic republic of Bangla Desh and its newly formed government," Mr. Ali said.

The Bangla Desh government was proclaimed yesterday in a ceremony a few miles from the Indian border.

"We are placing our services at the disposal of the government of Bangla Desh," Mr. Ali added. "This office will function as the mission of Bangla Desh in India from now onwards."

Mr. Ali said the mission's staff of 100 included about 30 persons from West Pakistan. He said they would receive all protection as staff members of the new mission, but that they would be free to leave India if they wished.

In Rawalpindi, Pakistan, meanwhile, a Foreign Office spokesman said Pakistan has no information on reports that the deputy high commissioner in Calcutta has defected and will have no further comment until details are available.

Appeal To U.N.

Mr. Ali appealed to "the United Nations and all countries of the world individually to give immediate recognition to Bangla Desh and its government."

Mr. Ali said the government "enjoys the support and allegiance of the people of Bangla Desh and fulfills all the conditions of statehood with recognized frontiers, a population of 79 millions and a popular government operating within the country."

He added that it was "an irony that India, which is said to be the sworn enemy of Pakistan, is now the only safe haven for hundreds of thousands of Pakistanis terrorized or forced out and it is the Indians who are giving them shelter, food and medical aid."

Mr. Ali, 48, said he had been in the Pakistani foreign service 22 years.

Assured Appointment

He told newsmen that he had contacted the Bangla Desh prime minister, Tajuddin Ahmed, and been assured appointment as the first Bangla Desh diplomat abroad.

Mr. Ali said his decision to defect was taken at a secret meeting among the staff after he received a telegram from the Pakistani government abolishing the deputy high commissioner's information department, recalling six East Pakistanis and asking some other East Pakistani diplomats to be ready for transfer.