

Pakistan Not Ready To Absorb Biharis

RAWALPINDI, Pakistan (AP) — The foreign office said today that Pakistan is not in a position to absorb large numbers of Biharis from Bangladesh, as proposed by Prime Minister Mujibur Rahman.

“Bangladesh seems to be proceeding on the wrong assumption that we are asking for Biharis,” said a foreign office official. “We believe they should be allowed to live in whatever wing of Pakistan they occupy.”

The official was responding to a statement in an interview last weekend by Shoik Mujib. The Prime Minister of Bangladesh proposed the exchange of 300,000 Biharis—non-Bengali Moslems in Bangladesh—for Bengalis in Pakistan.