

PAKISTAN LEADER FACES FIRST TEST

New Prime Minister to Confer
With Hostile East Bengal
Group at Dacca Today

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DACCA, Pakistan, May 6—Prime Minister Mohammed Ali will face his first test of political strength tomorrow when he is scheduled to arrive here from Karachi for a series of meetings with the powerful Moslem League party leaders of East Bengal Province. The youthful leader, who had been serving in diplomatic posts in the United States and Canada for four years prior to his appointment three weeks ago, will hear at least four demands on behalf of the 42,000,000 residents of the province, or more than half of the 76,000,000 population of the entire country.

The East Bengal Moslem League, headed by Nuril Amin, the Chief Minister of the province, still is smarting over the action taken by Ghulam Mohammed, the Governor General, in dismissing Khwaja Nazimuddin as Prime Minister with unexpected suddenness April 24. Mr. Nazimuddin is a native of East Bengal and president of the Moslem League and is a close ally of the leaders here.

MMR JALAL

Four Demands to Be Made

The demands, which will pose a problem of Mr. Ali's relations with the other provinces, include wider representation of East Bengalis in the Constituent Assembly, more Government jobs for East Bengalis and adoption of Bengali as one of the two national languages (Urdu is the other) and greater financial aid from the Karachi Government.

Emphasizing the problem confronting the Prime Minister is the fact that this province is a land island in eastern India, 1,200 miles from the capital and the rest of Pakistan, which is on the western border of India. This geographical breach has been a point of argument with many who opposed the severance of Pakistan from India in 1947.

Aside from the common religion of the predominant 32,000,000 Moslems in East Bengal Province, there is little to hold the two parts of Pakistan together. The feeling is widespread here that East Bengal is being slighted by the Federal Government in Karachi on several grounds.

Hope for Accord Is Held

Some observers sympathetic to Mr. Ali express the belief that he can narrow the gap between East and West Pakistan with a promise of more attention and greater participation in government.

Nuril Amin has cited the presence of only one East Bengali among the ten members of the Ali Cabinet and said the province, because of its large population, should have at least two ministers.

When Mr. Amin was asked if he, or others in East Bengal, had considered that the province might become a separate country, he smiled and replied: "Under existing India-Pakistan relations we would not, although recently there has been a good exchange of friendly words. Also East Pakistan (East Bengal) is indefensible militarily."