

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Is it true that the Government of Pakistan had made certain counter-charges against India to the Interseasonal Committee of the G.A.T.T.?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** It is true, Sir, that they pointed out the fact that we are levying a surcharge on coal as being discriminatory.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know, Sir, whether our charges against Pakistan and the Pakistani counter-charges are being considered by the Committee and are treated on an equal footing?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** As I have said, Sir, the Chairman of the Interseasonal Committee has made certain suggestions. His suggestions are before the Governments of Pakistan and India. It is expected some discussion will ensue.

**Shri Kelappan:** Is it a fact that the Pakistan Government have decided not to import jute manufactures from India and they would rather prefer doing without Indian manufactures?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I do not think, Sir, there is any definite basis for this. It is a fact that Pakistan are establishing their own jute mills. Perhaps they expect to become self-sufficient.

#### DISPUTED ISLAND VILLAGES ON GOPALPARA-RANGPUR BORDER.

**\*322. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether the joint survey of the disputed island villages along the Gopalpara-Rangpur border has been made as was agreed to at the 26th conference of the Chief Secretaries of West Bengal, East Bengal, Assam and Tripura in November, 1952?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** Yes.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know, Sir, how long it would take to make a survey of these villages?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** As I have said, Sir, the survey has been completed.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** On what basis do Government expect to get these villages exchanged by the Government of Pakistan?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** I do not quite understand the question, Sir. It is a question of the survey of this area and the survey has been completed recently. We have not yet got the report.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** What is the purpose of that survey?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** It is a contested piece of area. Some small islands in the river Brahmaputra, we claim that they belong to us and they say that they belong to them. A joint survey has been completed. We have not yet received the final report.

**Shri Beli Ram Das:** In whose possession are the islands at present?

**The Prime Minister (Shri Jawahar-Nehru):** There are a number of small islands and normally speaking nobody lives on them. That is why disputes arise. We have not received the full report yet. We have only been informed that the survey has been completed. The report will come presently.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** May I know whether there is an agreement as a result of this survey or are there still differences between the parties?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** So far as we know, the survey has been completed by both parties working together. I cannot precisely say that there is complete agreement but the presumption is that it has been an agreed survey.

#### INDO-AUSTRIAN TRADE AGREEMENT

**\*323. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Indo-Austrian Trade Agreement was recently signed between India and Austria;

(b) if so, since when that Agreement has come into force; and

(c) what are the chief terms of that Agreement?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 1st July 1952.

(c) Attention of the hon. Member is invited to the copies of the trade agreement placed in the Library of the House.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know, Sir, the trade position between India and Austria since this agreement came into force?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** In regard to exports and imports, Sir, I would like to have notice.