

the Railways at Bombay on behalf of the Dehra Dun Institute; and recently on the claims made by Dr. Kamesam on this particular type of material certain experiments were also made at his initiative by the National Physical Laboratory, but the results had not been found to be very encouraging.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : क्या दूसरी जगह भी मकानात बनाए गए हैं और नतीजा भी उतना सन्तोषजनक नहीं है जितना कि देहरादून का ?

Shri Buragohain: Certain claims have been made by Dr. Kamesam with regard to this matter and this was also discussed by the Seminar of the ECAFE last time, Sir, and further tests will have to be undertaken in this matter.

Shri Dhulekar: The hon. Minister stated that the Bamboo reinforced concrete roof had fallen. May I know whether the bamboos had fallen or were any repairs carried out? What was the cause? Was there any investigation?

Shri Buragohain: The bamboo concrete was used as an experimental measure and for reasons of economy. These hutments were programmed to last for only three years.

BORDER DISPUTE

*969. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Financial Commissioners of the two Punjabs met in Lahore on the 21st January, 1953, for making a fresh attempt to solve the boundary disputes on the western border; and

(b) whether these disputes are localised to one or two places or are spread over a long area?

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

(b) Disputes have arisen at various places along the border.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether the officers meet as and when any dispute arises or is there any permanent body to settle them as they arise?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: The Two Financial Commissioners meet from

time to time. The last time they met was on the 21st of January and they were to have met yesterday again.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether any proposal to put up permanent boundary marks on that border has ever been considered?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: After the boundary has been properly demarcated, of course the marks will be put up.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Recently there were reports about the killing of a soldier of India at this border. May I know whether that has been investigated? Was he on our side of the boundary or on the Pakistan side of the boundary?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I would like to have notice of the question, Sir.

SCRAP IRON (EXPORT)

*970. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether Government propose revising their policy of allowing exports of scrap from India?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): Yes, Sir, the matter is under the consideration of Government.

I should like to add that pending finalisation of a revised policy in this regard, no fresh export licences are being issued now.

Sardar Hukam Singh: What was the total quantity of scrap exported?

Shri Karmarkar: During 1952-53, from April to December, 1952, it was 314,255 tons.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether there were a good number of complaints that under the cover of scrap iron, useful iron was exported and whether action was taken against exporters?

Shri Karmarkar: We have been trying to see whether we should not curtail exports to a greater extent. There have been a few complaints.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether arrangements to use scrap iron have been made?

Shri Karmarkar: We have recently permitted some six concerns in this regard and as a long-term measure proposals are under consideration to set up electric furnaces in the Bhakra-Nangal and Hirakud sites where cheap electric power will become