

Shri S. C. Samanta: The hon. Minister said that import of jute from Pakistan is not the cause of falling prices, because only half the target of imports has been allowed. May I know whether our target of production in India has increased and if so, whether Government have taken into further consideration the target which they settled beforehand and have they come to a conclusion about the floor price of raw jute?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, there are a number of issues involved. I do not know if I would be able to answer satisfactorily all the points of my hon. friend. The present season's production including Mesta and Bimli is expected to be in the region of 44 lakhs of bales, and on the basis of last year's consumption, i.e. for the twelve months ending the 30th June 1952, the mills consumed 61 lakh bales. It, therefore, shows that even allowing for a carry-over of stocks with mills of about 9 lakh bales, there is a deficit, and the deficit has to be filled up or the mills should gradually curtail their working hours. The hon. Member can draw his own conclusions.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question. We have spent sixteen minutes over this one question.

ATTACK ON MANICKGANJ BY PAKISTANI Forces

II. Shri Barman: (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Pakistani Forces attacked Manickganj, a border village of Jalpaiguri district of West Bengal on 7th December, 1952?

(b) Did the forces use firearms, and if so, what are the casualties and damages done to any Indian nationals or properties?

(c) What are the ostensible causes of such aggression?

(d) What are the conditions of Indian nationals living in the Indian enclaves in Pakistan near about that place of incident?

(e) How many times has Jalpaiguri border been transgressed by Pakistan Forces up till now, and what are the damages committed by such transgressions up till now?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) and (b). On the 7th December 1952, about 25 Pakistani nationals trespassed into Indian territory and forcibly reaped paddy in Burirjote, Kotwali

P.S., Jalpaiguri District. On the arrival of a West Bengal patrol party, they retreated to Pakistan territory. Simultaneously, firing from Pakistani territory started and about 30 rounds were fired. The West Bengal patrol did not return the fire. There was no casualty or damage to property on our side.

(c) to (e). Information has been called for and when received will be laid on the Table of the House.

Shri Barman: What is the interval of time between the entry of Pakistan forces and the arrival of our forces on the scene?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: As I said before, we have not got detailed information, but I should think that since there was a patrol party in the neighbourhood our Police must have arrived on the scene before long.

Shri Barman: What are the nearest military or police outposts on either side of the border?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I have not got this information with me here, but as I said, the detailed information will be placed on the Table of the House when it is received from the West Bengal Government.

Shri Barman: In view of the fact that an India-Pakistan Conference is going to be held on the 20th inst., may I ask the hon. Minister to consider the desirability of having some police outposts in the enclaves in view of the difficulties experienced there?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): As I stated the other day, the position of these enclaves both in the Indian territory and in Pakistan territory is extraordinarily difficult. They are completely surrounding by the other territory. It is difficult enough to send supplies, etc., to keep the police party there. I suppose a police party occasionally goes. But even that police party is surrounded by foreign territory while coming and going. The only real solution is, as a result of cordial adjustment, to put an end to the enclaves. In any event, the Conference to which the hon. Member referred, is one of officials to deal with the passport situation. These other matters are dealt with normally by East Bengal and West Bengal officials in conference locally.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF LABOUR COMMISSIONER DELHI

III. Shri N. P. Sinha: (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state whether the attention of Government