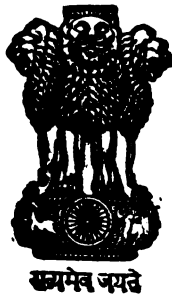


# COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

## SECOND REPORT



PARLIAMENT SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI

*April, 1954.*

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## MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

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1. Shri Kotha Raghuramaiah—*Chairman*.
2. Shri Asim Krishna Dutt.
3. Shri C. P. Mathew.
4. Shri Sohan Lal Dhusiya.
5. Shri Beli Ram Das.
6. Shri Liladhar Joshi.
7. Shri U. R. Bogawat.
8. Shri Jethalal Harikrishna Joshi.
9. Shri Bhola Raut.
10. Shri Resham Lal Jangde.
11. Shrimati Renu Chakravartty.
12. Shri Ramji Verma.
13. Shri P. Subba Rao.
14. Shri Anandchand.
15. Shri P. N. Rajabhoj.

### SECRETARIAT

Shri S. L. Shakdher—*Joint Secretary*.

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# REPORT

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I, the Chairman of the Committee on Petitions, having been authorised by the Committee to present the Report on their behalf, present this Second Report of the Committee.

2. The Committee at its meeting held on Wednesday, the 21st April, 1954 considered the following three petitions:—

- (i) Petition from Shri Rishi Kesh relating to Displaced Persons (Claims) Supplementary Bill, 1953 (Petition No. 3—Appendix I);
- (ii) Petition from the inhabitants of Patharkandi and Karimganj P.S. (Parts) (Tripura State) relating to the Government of Part C States (Amendment) Bill by Shri Dasaratha Deb and Shri Biren Dutt (Petition No. 4—Appendix II); and
- (iii) Petition from the inhabitants of Lakhipur, Cachar District (Tripura State) relating to the Government of Part C States (Amendment) Bill by Shri Dasaratha Deb and Shri Biren Dutt (Petition No. 5—Appendix III).

3. The Committee have examined the petition No. 3, referred to in paragraph 2 above, which is in conformity with the Rules of Procedure and recommend that the matter raised in the petition be examined by the Government to consider the desirability of including such a provision in the Displaced Persons (Claims) Supplementary Act.

4. The Committee also considered petitions Nos. 4 and 5, referred to in paragraph 2 above, which relate to the Government of Part C States (Amendment) Bill introduced by Shri Dasaratha Deb and Shri Biren Dutt on the 11th December, 1953 and the 12th March, 1954 respectively. These petitions are in conformity with the Rules of Procedure.

The petitioners are opposed to the existing Chief Commissioner's Rule in Tripura State and demand the immediate establishment of popular rule.

The Committee recommend that both these petitions be circulated *in extenso* as a Paper to the Government of Part C States (Amendment) Bill.

K. RAGHURAMIAH,  
Chairman,  
Committee on Petitions.

NEW DELHI;

The 27th April, 1954.

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## APPENDICES

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## APPENDIX I

### *Petition No. 3*

#### *Petition relating to Displaced Persons (Claims) Supplementary Bill, 1953.*

To

#### HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

The humble petition of Shri Rishi Kesh, son of Shri L. Tulsi Dass Kapur, 43, Havelock Square, New Delhi sheweth:

The petitioner and his nephew Narinder Singh are displaced persons from West Pakistan (Lahore Corporation). Their property consisted mainly of agricultural land, a part of which was situated in village Baddo (a suburb of Lahore Corporation) and a part in Shahdara proper (within the limits of Lahore Corporation).

Shortly after the partition of the country, the Government of India invited claims regarding the property left by the displaced persons in Pakistan. Claims to agricultural lands were to be put in separately. In accordance with instructions, the petitioner and his nephew filed their claims with regard to the whole of agricultural land (Suburban and urban). No directions to file separate claims in respect of the urban agricultural land were issued by that time.

The petitioner had to go from place to place in search of shelter for his family and spent most of the time in secluded places in the Kangra and other districts, where the newspapers did not reach him.

Subsequently the Government of India issued another communicate requiring displaced persons to file separate claims in respect of urban property. It was not properly understood and a considerable number of urban land-holders, remained under the impression that fresh claims were to be filed only with regard to urban property other than urban agricultural land, for which claims had already been put in. That is why none of the petitioner's relatives informed him about the subsequent communicate. The petitioner thus omitted to file claims with regard to urban land separately as he always remained under the impression that he had already done so. A considerable number of land holders share petitioner's fate.

It is well known that only a negligible section of the public read papers and that is only in urban areas. It would therefore be no surprise if the Government communicate published in one or two editions of the papers did not reach the ears of a considerable number of displaced persons, especially when after having put in their claims

once, they were feeling contented and had no idea that the claims previously filed would be ignored. There were other factors also which created in them a sense of complacency and self-satisfaction, thereby contributing to the omission.

The Director General Rehabilitation, Jullundur, to whom all land claims filed in 1948-49 were forwarded, continued to investigate and verify not only with regard to rural and suburban land but also with regard to urban land. On the basis of these claims, 6 acres of urban land were leased out to the petitioner and 6 acres to the petitioner's nephew. The petitioner and his nephew have thus been since then holding an yearly lease of 12 acres of urban land against their verified claims of 15 acres of urban land. Claims of urban holders were verified by the Rehabilitation Department from the Extract Jamabandi received from Pakistan and verification cards of the urban land thus verified were issued to the urban holders.

The process of investigation into the claims, on the basis of claims filed in 1948-49 continued for a very long time and there was nothing to indicate to the common man that his previous claims which had been duly verified by the Government and against which he was being granted lease of urban land from year to year did not hold good.

The urban land is being held on lease by the petitioner and his nephew even at present and no notice of ejectment is under contemplation so far but it is understood that the said petitioner's and his nephew's previous claim with the Director of Rehabilitation in respect of urban land is not going to be considered as they did not subsequently file a separate claim.

A considerable number of displaced persons who held urban agricultural land, including mostly widows and old men, share the fate of the petitioner for the omission to file a separate claim.

It may be pointed out in this connection that verification of such claims will not take long, as the urban land stands verified in the record of the Office of the Director, Rehabilitation Department, Jullundur and the extract Jamabandi in respect of such land exist there.

And accordingly your petitioner prays—

(i) that the House will devise means to grant relief to those who bear the fate of the petitioner keeping in view of the pitiable condition of displaced persons, their meagre resources, the tribulations and the miseries they have suffered since the partition of the country;

(ii) that a suitable clause be inserted in the Bill namely the Displaced Persons (Claims) Supplementary Bill, 1953, which is already



pending before the House, to cover cases of claims in respect of urban land originally put in, along with claim for other agricultural land

and your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray.

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## APPENDIX II

### Petition No. 4

To

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Whereas a Bill entitled the Government of Part C States (Amendment) Bill 1953 is now under consideration of the House;

The humble petition of the inhabitants of Patharkandi and Karimganj, P.S. (Parts) sheweth:

That the people of Tripura State have unitedly raised their very legitimate and just demand for an elected Assembly and responsible Ministry in the State, in place of the existing Chief Commissioner's rule, which is against the very spirit of Constitution of India.

2. That there is no reason whatsoever to deprive the people of Tripura of this elementary democratic right, which the people of India to-day enjoy.

And accordingly your petitioners pray that

The Bill to amend the Government of Part C States Act 1951 introduced by Shri Dasaratha Deb and Shri Biren Dutt be proceeded with

and your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

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Names of petitioners	Address	Signature or thumb impression
Benoy Bhusan Dey and 43 others.	Dattapura and other Parts.	Sd. Benoy Bhusan Dey and signed by 43 others.

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### APPENDIX III

*Petition No. 5*

To

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Whereas a Bill entitled the Government of Part C States (Amendment) Bill 1953 is now under consideration of the House;

The humble petition of the inhabitants of Lakhipur, District Cachar, Assam,

sheweth

That the people of Tripura State have unitedly raised their very legitimate and just demand for an elected Assembly and responsible Ministry in the State in place of the existing Chief Commissioner's rule, which is against the very spirit of Constitution of India.

2. That there is no reason whatsoever to deprive the people of Tripura of this elementary democratic right, which the people of India to-day enjoy.

And accordingly your petitioners pray that

The Bill to amend the Government of Part C States Act 1951 introduced by Shri Dasaratha Deb and Shri Biren Dutt be proceeded with

and your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

Names of petitioners	Address	Signature or thumb impression
Kousini Sarma and 25 others.	Lakhipur, Cachar and other Parts.	Sd. Kousini Sarma and signed by 25 others.