

position to reply now, you may reply now. Otherwise, later

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The hon. Minister has been replying to the debate for more than an hour. If the hon. Members want any clarification from the Minister, they can write to the Minister. Before the motion is moved...

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: I want to add that the effective rate of basic duty on aeroplane has been 3% for the last several years, from 1949. The notification was re-issued on 9-7-1977

17.19 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: We will find out.

17.20 hrs

STATEMENT RE: ASSAM

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ZAIL SINGH): Sir, as the House is well aware, Government have been most anxious to bring about a satisfactory solution to the problem of foreigners in Assam. Time and again it has been made clear that Government have been and are willing for talks

2. The Chief Minister of Manipur, Shri R. K. Dorendra Singh has taken initiative to have discussions with all Assam Students Union (AASU) and All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad (AAGSP) in order that the agitation in all its aspects is withdrawn and talks with Government are resumed. Following his discussions, Shri R. K. Dorendra Singh has been assured that AASU and AAGSP will withdraw the agitation in all its aspects except the blockade of crude oil, if an announcement is made for:

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(a) release of detainees who are involved in the agitation in a peaceful manner; and

(b) withdrawal of the notifications issued under the Assam disturbed Areas Act and the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act.

3. The Government have accordingly decided to release all detainees who are not involved in violence and to withdraw the relevant notifications on 2nd August, 1980, on the clear understanding that AASU and AAGSP will withdraw the agitation as mentioned above with effect from the same date.

4. In order to create an atmosphere of good-will and understanding, Government have also decided to take action as follows:—

(a) to waive the recovery of collective fines imposed for acts of communal violence provided undertaken are given by representatives of affected communities to abjure violence and to live in amity and peace.

(b) to review the cases registered against persons who have not been involved in violence

5. As regards action against Government servants it is a matter entirely between the Government and its employees. The State Government will review disciplinary cases on merit. In this connection the Prime Minister has directed that the approach should be sympathetic.

6. The Government appreciate the efforts made by the Chief Minister of Manipur and others in this regard and trust that harmony and normalcy will now be restored in Assam. Government expect cooperation from all sections so that talks to find a satisfactory solution can commence soon.