13.16 km.

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

## FIFTEENTH REPORT

SHRI S. C. SAMANTA (Tamluk): I beg to present the Fifteenth Report of the Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House.

## COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

SEVENTEENTH REPORTS AND MINUTES

SHRI A P. SHARMA (Buxar): I present the following Report and Minutes of Committee on Petitions:—

- (1) Seventeenth Report of the Committee; and
- (2) Minutes of the Thirty-first to Forty-first sittings of the Committee.

13.164 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: ALLEGED RAP-ING OF WOMEN AND GIRLS BY BSF PERSONNEL IN MANIPUR HILL AREAS

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): On behalf of Shri Uma Shankar Dikshit, I lay on the Table a statement regarding alleged raping of women and girls by BSF personnel in Manipur Hill areas.

## Statement

When BSF personnel were escorting a Polling party with ballot boxes on 19th February, 1974, an ambush was laid by hostile elements. In this ambush, one BSF jawan was killed, three were wounded and the Presiding Officer sustained serious head injuries. On 29th February, 1974, there was

another encounter between a BSF Patrol and the hostiles.

On receipt of information that the two wounded hostiles involved in the above incidents were being guarded for being moved to a safe place, two special columns, one under Shri Pundir, acting Commandant and the other under Shri Dharam Prakash, Deputy Commandant, were sent to comb the suspected area.

The special column led by Shri Pundir visited village Ngaprum during the combing operations. It is alleged that a girl named Miss Rose of that village was raped on 4-3-74 by Shri Pundir and Shri Negi. Assistant Commandant and that the girl committed suicide on 6-3-74. A case under Section 376/201 IPC was registered in Phungyar Police Station. The dead body of Miss Rose, which had been buried on 6-3-74, was exhumed on 25-3-74 and sent for post mortem examination. According to the State Government the report of the examination is awaited. A requisition for the arrest of the above two BSF officers was sent to the DIG, BSF Manipur, on 11-4-74. The two officers have been arrested.

The special column commanded by Shri Dharam Prakash, Deputy Commandant, went to Grihang village for carrying out combing operations against hostiles and they interrogated a number of persons in village Grihang on 4-3-74, 5-3-74 and 6-3-74. It is alleged that during the interrogation they used criminal force against the villagers including women. It is also alleged that on 5-3-74 at about noon, some members of the party used criminal force to outrage the modesty of one Smt. Ngasingla, a resident of Grihang village. A case under Section 354/326/407 IPC have been registered in P.S. Chassad. The police sent a requisition for the arrest of the following persons:---

- 1. Shri Dharam Prakash.
- 2. Inspector Bhagwan Singh.