

explosion are essentially research and development programmes. Against this background, the Government of India fails to understand why India is being criticised on the ground that the technology necessary for the peaceful nuclear exploding is no different from that necessary for a weapons programme.

No technology is evil in itself; it is the use that nations make of technology which determines its character. India does not accept the principal of apartheid in any matter and technology is no exception.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai): Sir, I want to make a submission that this statement should be taken up for discussion. This subject of Atomic Energy is never discussed when we discuss the General Budget. So, I request that this may be taken up for discussion. This is the submission I wish to make.

MR. SPEAKER: That could be considered.

Now, Mr. Swaran Singh.

13.46 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. AGREEMENT ON
BOUNDARY DEMARCATION BETWEEN
INDIA AND BANGLADESH

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH): Sir, as the House is aware, certain portions of our border with Bangladesh have remained undemarcated. This is because differences had arisen with the Government of Pakistan on interpretations of the Radcliffe and other Awards and on individual issues connected with demarcation....

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): This can be laid on the Table.

MR. SPEAKER: You can lay it on the Table.

SHRI SWARAN SINGH: I place my statement and also the copy of the agreement on the Table of the House.

Statement

As the House is aware, certain portions of our border with Bangladesh have remained undemarcated. This is because differences had arisen with the Government of Pakistan on interpretations of the Radcliffe and other Awards and on individual issues connected with demarcation. With the emergence of the sovereign Government of Bangladesh the completion of demarcation has been receiving the attention of both the Governments of Bangladesh and ourselves.

2. In the spirit of goodwill and accommodation that marks our relations with the friendly Government of Bangladesh, we have been able to resolve all the issues that had previously prevented demarcation and have signed on the 16th May, 1974, an Agreement with Bangladesh relating to the demarcation of the Indo-Bangladesh land boundary. The way is now open to complete the demarcation of the entire border with Bangladesh although naturally the actual process of demarcation will take some time.

3. If I may dwell for a moment on the main features of the Agreement, we have ensured the use of the waters of the Muhuri and Feni rivers to the nationals of both India and Bangladesh and have also secured the water-supply of the town of Belonia, while recognising Bangladesh's position in the Asalong area. The whole of Berubarf will remain with India while the Bangladesh enclaves of Dahagram and Angarpota will remain with that country. All other enclaves of the two countries will be exchanged. We will also lease to Bangladesh an area to connect the enclaves of Dahagram and Angarpota with Bangladesh while ensuring that our nationals retain the facility of passage across this area.

[Shri Swaran Singh]

As demarcation takes place, territories in the adverse possession of one or the other country will come to light. These will be exchanged; and we have agreed that the people in area which are transferred will be given the right of staying on where they are as national of the State to which the areas are transferred.

4. I am sure the House will appreciate that it is in our interest that we should ensure smooth demarcation of the boundary in accordance with the Agreement as the advantages that will accrue to both countries as a result of a friendly atmosphere will far outweigh any seeming dissatisfaction in any locality. The continuance of unsettled borders creates problems. As a result of the Agreement, there should be no reason for such problems to arise.

5. I lay on the Table of the House a copy of the Agreement.

Agreement

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh,

Bearing in mind the friendly relations existing between the two countries,

Desiring to define more accurately at certain points and to complete the demarcation of the land boundary between India and Bangladesh,

Have agreed as follows:—

Article 1

The land boundary between India and Bangladesh in the areas mentioned below shall be demarcated in the following manner:

1. Mizoram-Bangladesh Sector

Demarcation should be completed on the basis of the latest pre-partition notifications and records.

2. Tripura-Sylhet Sector

Demarcation which is already in progress in this area on the agreed

basis, should be completed as early as possible.

3. Bhagalpur Railway Line

The boundary should be demarcated at a distance of 75 feet parallel to the toe of the railway embankment towards the east.

4. Sibpur-Gaurangala Sector

The boundary should be demarcated in continuation of the process started in 1951-52 on the basis of the District Settlement Maps of 1915-1918.

5. Muhuri River (Belonia) Sector

The boundary in this area should be demarcated along the mid-stream of the course of Muhuri River at the time of demarcation. This boundary will be a fixed boundary. The two Governments should raise embankments on their respective sides with a view to stabilising the river in its present course.

6. Remaining portion of the Tripura-Noakhali/Comilla Sector

The demarcation in this sector should be completed on the basis of Chakla-Roshanabad Estate Maps of 1892-1894 and the District Settlement Maps of 1915-1918 for areas not covered by the Chakla-Roshanabad Maps.

7. Fenny River

The boundary should be demarcated along the mid-stream of the course at the time of demarcation of that branch of the Fenny River indicated as the Fenny River on Survey of India Map Sheet No. 79^M 1st Edition 15 1935, till it joins the stream shown as Asalong C on the said Map. From that point on, downstream, the boundary should be demarcated along the mid-stream of the course of the Fenny River at the time of demarcation of the boundary. The boundary in this sector will be a fixed boundary.

8. Rest of Tripura Chittagong Hill Tracts Sector

The boundary will follow the mid-stream of that branch of the Fenny River, referred to in para 7 above, upto Grid reference 009779 (map sheet as in para 7 above) from where the boundary will follow the mid-stream of the eastern-most tributary. From the source of this tributary, the boundary will run along the shortest distance to the midstream of the stream marked Bayan Asalong, on the map referred to above, and thence will run generally northwards along the mid-stream of this river till it reaches its source on the ridge (indicated by grid reference 046810 on the map referred to above). From there it will run along the crest of this ridge upto Boghoban Trig Station. From Boghoban Trig Station upto the tri-junction of the Bangladesh-Assam-Tripura boundary (Khan Talang Trig Station), the boundary will run along the watershed of the river systems of the two countries. In case of any difference between the map and the ground, the ground shall prevail. The boundary will be a fixed boundary in this sector.

9. Beanibazar-Karimganj Sector

The undemarcated portion of the boundary west of Umapati village should be demarcated in accordance with the agreed basis of demarcation, leaving Umapati village in India.

10. Hakar Khal

The boundary should be demarcated in accordance with the Nehru-Noon Agreement of September, 1958, treating Hakar Khal as a geographical feature distinct from the Ichhamati River. The boundary will be a fixed boundary.

11. Baikari Khal

In the Baikari Khal, the boundary should be demarcated on the agreed basis and principles, namely, that the ground shall prevail, i.e., as per the

agreement reached between the Directors of Land Records and Surveys of West Bengal and erstwhile East Pakistan in 1949. The boundary will be a fixed boundary.

12. Enclaves

The Indian enclaves in Bangladesh and the Bangladesh enclaves in India should be exchanged expeditiously, excepting the enclaves mentioned in paragraph 14 without claim to compensation for the additional area going to Bangladesh.

13. Hilli

The area will be demarcated in accordance with Radcliffe Award and the line drawn by him on the map.

14. Berubari

India will retain the southern half of South Berubari Union No. 12 and the adjacent enclaves, measuring an area of 2.64 square miles approximately, and in exchange Bangladesh will retain the Dahagram and Angarpota enclaves. India will lease in perpetuity to Bangladesh an area of approximately 178 metres x 86 metres near 'Tin Bigha' to connect Dahagram with Panbari Mouza (P. S. Patgram) of Bangladesh.

15. Lathitilla-Dumabari

From point Y (the last demarcated boundary pillar position), the boundary shall run southwards along the Patharia Hills RF boundary up to the point where it meets the western boundary of Dumabari Mouza. Thence along the same Mouza boundary up to the tri-junction of Mouzas Dumabari, Lathitilla and Bara Putnigaon through the junction of the two Mouzas Dumabari and Lathitilla. From this point it shall run along the shortest distance to meet the mid-stream of Putni Chara. Thence it shall run generally southwards along the midstream of the course of Putni Chara at the time of demarcation, till it meets the boundary between Sylhet (Bangladesh) and Tripura (India).

Article 2

The Governments of India and Bangladesh agree that territories in adverse possession in areas already demarcated in respect of which boundary strip maps are already prepared, shall be exchanged within six months of the signing of the boundary strip maps by the plenipotentiaries. They may sign the relevant maps as early as possible and in any case not later than the 31st December, 1974. Early measures may be taken to print maps in respect of other areas where demarcation has already taken place. These should be printed by 31st May 1975 and signed by the plenipotentiaries thereafter in order that the exchange of adversely held possessions in these areas may take place by the 31st December, 1975. In sectors still to be demarcated, transfer of territorial jurisdiction may take place within six months of the signature by plenipotentiaries on the concerned boundary strip maps.

Article 3

The Governments of India and Bangladesh agree that when areas are transferred, the people in these areas shall be given the right of staying on where they are, as nationals of the State to which the areas are transferred. Pending demarcation of the boundary and exchange of territory by mutual agreement, there should be no disturbance of the *status quo* and peaceful conditions shall be maintained in the border regions. Necessary instructions in this regard shall be issued to the local authorities on the border by the two countries.

Article 4

The Governments of India and Bangladesh agree that any dispute concerning the interpretation or implementation of this Agreement shall be settled peacefully through mutual consultations.

Article 5

This Agreement shall be subject to ratification by the Governments of India and Bangladesh and Instruments of Ratification shall be exchanged as early as possible. The Agreement shall take effect from the date of the exchange of the Instruments of Ratification.

Signed in New Delhi on May 16, 1974, in two originals each of which is equally authentic.

For the Government of the Republic of India.

Sd: INDIRA GANDHI,
Prime Minister of India.

For the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

Sd: SHEIKH MUJIBUR RAHMAN,
Prime Minister of Bangladesh.

13.47 hrs.

COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF REPORT

DR. HENRY AUSTIN (Ernakulam): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do extend up to the last day of the second week of the next session the time for the presentation of the Report of the Committee of Privileges on the question of privilege against Shri Jagjit Singh, President of the New Friends Co-operative House Building Society Ltd., New Delhi, regarding a letter purported to have been written by him to the Lt. Governor of Delhi on the 7th May, 1974, allegedly casting aspersions on Parliament."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do extend up to the last day of the second week