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#### LOK SABHA

Saturday, 26th May, 1956.

The Lok Sabha met at Half Past Ten of the Clock.

[Mr. SPEAKER in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

11-31 A.M.

### PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

AMENDMENTS TO DISPLACED PERSONS (COMPENSATION AND REHABILITATION) RULES, 1955

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of section 40 of the Displaced Persons (Compensation and Rehabilitation) Act, 1954, a copy of the Notification No. S. R. O. 1161, dated the 19th May, 1956, making certain further amendments to the Displaced Persons (Compensation and Rehabilitation) Rules, 1956. [Placed in Library See No. S—195/56].

### ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

TWENTY-NINTH AND THIRTIETH REPORTS

श्री बी०जी० मेहता (गोहिलवाड): अध्यक्ष महोदय, में रेलवे मंत्रालय सम्बन्धी एस्टीमेटस समिती की उनतीसवी और तीसवीं रिपोर्ट पेश करता हं।

# PETITION RE: INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS ACT

Shri Viswanatha Reddy (Chittoor): I beg to present a petition signed by a petitioner relating to the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Act and Rules framed thereunder.

1-141 Lok Sabha

CALLING ATTENTION TO MAT-TERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IM-PORTANCE

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RISE IN PRICE OF RICE IN TRIPURA

Shri Biren Dutt (Tripura West): Under Rule 216, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Food and Agriculture to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"Rise in price of rice resulting in starvation conditions in Tripura."

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): It is true that the price of rice has risen in Tripura. The State is surrounded on three sides by the East Pakistan territory. In East Pakistan the rice crop failed this year with consequent high price, which led to considerable smuggling of rice from Tripura to East Pakistan. This is the main reason for high prices in the State.

Arrangements have now been made to open Government fair price shops in Agartala and six sub-divisional head-quarters of the State for distribution of rice at the retail price of Rs. 17-8-0 per maund.

The State Government had already available with them a stock of 3,000 tons of paddy. The Government of India have agreed to supply to the State Government their full requirements, to enable them to arrange distribution of ration at concessional price through fair price shops. 3,000 tons of rice have already been despatched from Calcutta by three special trains, and about 2,000 tons have already been received by the Tripura Government. A small quantity has also been sent by air to meet the emergency. Further supplies have been programmed for despatch by special trains.

At present, the State Government are issuing rice at the rate of twelve ounces per adult per day but they are proposing to increase the ration to sixteen ounces per adult. With the distribution arrangement already introduced by the

### [Shri M. V. Krishnappa]

State Government and adequate quantities of rice already received in Tripura, there should be nothing now to apprehend that the requirements of the population of Tripura will not be adequately met.

Shri B. S. Murthy (Eluru): May I seek a clarification? Despite the supplies, what arrangements have been made to stop further smuggling into Pakistan?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: We have promulgated an order banning the movement of rice in a belt of five miles adjoining the Pakistan area.

CONTINUED FIRING BY PAKISTAN FORCES INTO INDIAN TERRITORY

Shri Vallatharas (Pudukkottai): Under Rule 216, I beg to call the attention of the Prime Minister to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

"Continued firing by the Pakistan armed forces into Indian territory since about 23-5-1956."

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I will read out the information I have received.

"On 22nd two armed constables of Barapunji Camp went for patrol duty at Deutolipunji one and half miles from our Mahisasan border outpost in Latu sector and took up position in trenches. One got out of his trench after sometime when at 9 hours two rounds were fired upon him from Pak Kumarsail outpost. He immediately took up position and fired back two rounds against another from Pak side. Another round was fired from Pak side at 12-15 hours and our side replied with two rounds. At 15-00 hours Pak side again opened rapid firing and our side returned with LMG and rifles. Sporadic firing continued on both sides up to 16-30 hours with no casualty.

At 23 hours on 23rd, Pak opened fire on Serulbhag and Lakhibazar locality on our side of Kasiara river when two rounds were fired by our Lakhibazar outpost. At 06-25 hours and 07-45 hours on 24th, Pak forces fired one and six rounds respectively on Barapunji. They also fired three rounds at Mahisasan outpost.

No firing since and no casualties reported so far. Protests lodged both at district and Government levels."

Shri S. C. Deb (Cachar-Lushai Hills): May I know the cause of this firing?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Nerves.

Shri S. C. Deb: May I know whether the Government is considering reenforcing the security forces because sometime back also there was firing on Cachar-Sylhet border?

Shri Jawaharial Nehru: The honours are even. I do not see why my hon. friends should be afraid of a little firing now and then. It does not really matter. I think we are scoring even.

Shri Kasliwal (Kotah-Jhalawar): Whenever a statement of this nature—calling attention to a matter of urgent public importance—is made, a copy of the notice may also be placed on the notice board. We do not know whether such statements are made. Whenever there is a short-notice question, a copy of that is placed on the notice board.

Mr. Speaker: Are not such notices placed in the notice board?

Shri Kasliwal: No, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Whenever such a business is admitted, I shall try to include it in the agenda. I have got it here and I thought it must be a copy of what has been supplied to Members also.

## PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

STATISTICAL INFORMATION re WORKING OF PREVENTIVE DETENTION ACT

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): On behalf of the Home Minister, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the pamphlet containing statistical information regarding the working of the Preventive Detention Act, 1950, during the period 31st December, 1955 to 31st March, 1956. [Placed in Library. See No. S—197/56]