

State-wise position in respect of the election petitions:

Statement No. I.—Showing the number of election petitions filed before the Election Commission. [Placed in Library. See No. S-27/54.]

Statement No. II.—Showing the number of election petitions either dismissed by the Commission or permitted by it to be withdrawn. [Placed in Library. See No. S-27/54.]

Statement No. III.—Showing the number of petitions referred to Election Tribunals for trial, number of petitions disposed of by them and number of petitions pending with them and the Election Commission. [Placed in Library. See No. S-27/54.]

Statement No. IV.—Showing the number of election petitions disposed of by the Election Tribunals. [Placed in Library. See No. S-27/54.]

Statement No. V.—Showing the number of petitions pending before the Election Tribunals in respect of General Elections. [Placed in Library. See No. S-27/54.]

Statement No. VI.—Showing the number of election petitions pending before the Election Tribunals and Election Commission in respect of bye-elections. [Placed in Library. See No. S-27/54.]

Statement No. VII.—Showing reasons for the delay in the disposal of 19 election petitions relating to general elections. [Placed in Library. See No. S-27/54.]

AGREEMENTS BETWEEN RAJPRAMUKH OF SAURASHTRA AND RESERVE BANK OF INDIA

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of section 21A of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, a copy of each of the Principal and Supplemental Agreements executed between the Rajpra-

mukh of Saurashtra and the Reserve Bank of India on the 23rd December 1953. [Placed in Library. See No. S-19/54.]

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER THE SEA CUSTOMS ACT

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (4) of section 43B of the Sea Customs Act, 1878, a copy of each of the following notifications:—

(i) Customs No. 91 dated the 26th November, 1953; and

(ii) Customs No. 92 dated the 26th November, 1953.

[Placed in Library. See No. S-18/54.]

MUSLIM WAKFS BILL

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

The Minister of Law and Minority Affairs (Shri Biswas): I beg to move:

“That the time appointed for the presentation of the report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the better governance and administration of Muslim Wakfs and the supervision of Mutawallis’ management of them, in India, be further extended upto Saturday, the 6th March, 1954.”

The Select Committee has practically completed its labours. But it was decided to redraft the whole Bill so as to make it simpler, and the revised draft consists of about seventy clauses. We have already done fifty-five or sixty of them and only a few remain. Then it has got to be printed. Therefore we are asking for this short adjournment. But it may be possible to present the report even before this date.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

“That the time appointed for the presentation of the report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the better governance and administration of Muslim Wakfs and the supervision of

[Mr. Speaker]

Mutawallis' management of them, in India, be further extended upto Saturday, the 6th March, 1954."

The motion was adopted.

MOTION ON ADDRESS BY THE
PRESIDENT—contd.

Mr. Speaker: We will now proceed with the debate on the President's Address, the motion of thanks and the amendments thereto.

Shri U. C. Patnaik (Ghumsur): Sir, some centuries ago a statesman-General of England who was a great believer in God and religion told his compatriots, "Trust in God, but keep your powder dry". And the words that he spoke centuries back are perhaps true even today. We in India, with the present Pakistan-United States alliance and other problems before us, should also have our trust in so many things: we could have our belief in other nations still we have got to be prepared for any eventuality. We may believe in the *bona fides* of Pakistan. We may believe that our Anglo-American friends will not go against us and that they will stand by us in any contingency. We may believe that the United Nations, which has one of our hon. Members as its Chairman today, will come to our rescue. We may even assume that we have not forgotten the technique of non-violence and that with the old technique we can think of facing any trouble that may come from Pakistan. But yet we have to remember that it is quite possible for Pakistan to take advantage of the arms aid and start trouble for us. That is a possibility, an eventuality, and we will be criminally negligent if we lose sight of it. It is possible that the United Nations may step in at some stage. It is quite possible that public opinion in western countries may try to intervene. But then Pakistan, if only to satisfy its fanatical masses, puts forward the plea that India is going to attack Lahore or some other place,

and create trouble only for a couple of days. Just imagine, if for two or three days there is bombardment of our cities. Of course, it is for the hon. Minister to satisfy us that the country is prepared for it. Suppose there is aerial bombardment or attack with long-range missiles, or suppose there is fifth column activity, attack against our lines of communication, sabotage, infiltration and so on. Then what is the position? I hope it will not be said that we are trying to have war-mongering here or rousing a sort of war psychosis. We would like to know what is the arrangement that Government have made for defending the country, in spite of the fact that we are spending nearly 55 per cent. of our annual revenues on defence, in spite of our President being the Supreme Commander of the Defence Forces, and in spite of our Prime Minister being the Defence Minister of the country. Can we have the assurance from the Government that the country is prepared for a sudden attack, an attack against our cities, against our lines of communication, against our entire life in certain strategic areas? For obvious reasons I would not like to go into detail. As I stated yesterday, on this subject, it is dangerous to speak of our defence weaknesses: the problem for us is what we should not speak, rather than what we speak. Yet let us just imagine the contingency. What is the arrangement you have got? What is the anti-aircraft equipment you have got? And have you got many of those modern types of aircrafts and anti-aircrafts? Our old Ac-Acs, the Oerlicons and Bofors have probably become antiquated. For instance, you have at present the radar equipment in the new types of anti-aircrafts where it keeps the target in view till it comes within the range of your shot. How many of these have we? You need not tell us; but be sure that you have the best weapons.

Apart from these new weapons for which you may have to go to other countries to purchase, have you tried