

September, 1958, agreed without amendment to the Manipur and Tripura (Repeal of Laws) Bill, 1958, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 3rd September, 1958."

(iii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 19th September, 1958, agreed without any amendment to the Rajghat Samadhi (Amendment) Bill, 1958, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 4th September, 1958."

(iv) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 19th September, 1958, agreed without any amendment to the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 1958, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 10th September, 1958."

12.04 hrs.

PRESIDENT'S ASSENT TO BILLS

Secretary: Sir, I lay on the Table the following three Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament during the current Session and assented to by the President since a report was last made to the House on the 8th September, 1958:—

1. The Central Sales Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 1958.
2. The Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Bill, 1958.
3. The Estate Duty (Amendment) Bill, 1958.

POINT OF INFORMATION—Contd.

Shri M. E. Masani (Ranchi-East): Sir, the hon. Deputy-Speaker told me when I sought to raise a matter immediately after the Question Hour that it could be raised immediately after the papers are laid on the Table. This morning, I had given notice of my desire to raise a matter of breach of privilege on the floor of this House. I crave your permission to do so.

In accordance with rules 222 and 223, I have sought to raise a matter involving a breach of privilege of this House and I seek your consent to draw your attention to the telegram reportedly sent by the Chief Minister of Kerala to the Home Minister of our Government, in the course of which the Chief Minister has taken the liberty of accusing Members of this House, while doing their duty to Parliament and to the country, of trying to slander the State Government in the name of explanation". Sir, slander is a very serious term to use about the Members of this hon. House who are performing their duty according to the best of their lights. As you will see, the dictionary describes Slander as "false statement, malicious representation" and so on.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member will kindly resume his seat. Nothing will be hustled; nobody will be muzzled. I have got his notices. So far as motions of privilege are concerned I have to be satisfied that *prima facie* there is a breach of privilege. Therefore, I shall look into the matter, and shall bring it up tomorrow. I would certainly give an opportunity to the hon. Member. If I have any doubts, even before bringing it up here, I will talk to him and try to ascertain what the position is. That is the practice we adopt. Therefore, let this stand over till tomorrow.

Shri M. B. Masani: I had given two notices. Do I understand that both of them will stand over till tomorrow?

Mr. Speaker: Both of them will stand over till tomorrow.

12.06 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

FOURTH REPORT

Shri Barman (Cooch-Bihar—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to present the Fourth Report of the Committee on Petitions.

12. hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE.

LINE OF DEMARCATION BETWEEN EAST PAKISTAN AND WEST BENGAL

Shrimati Benu Chakravartty (Basirhat): Under rule 197 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:—

“The exact definition of the line demarcating the border between the District of Khulna-Jessore in East Pakistan and P.S. Baduria-Swarupnagar along the river Ichhamati in the District of 24 Parganas in India.”

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): The boundary between East Pakistan and West Bengal in the region of Indian Police Stations Swarupnagar and Baduria, runs along the district boundary between Khulna in East Pakistan and 24 Parganas in West Bengal. The boundary along these two

Police Stations is a land boundary. The river Ichhamati does not form the boundary between India and Pakistan so far as Police Stations Swarupnagar and Baduria are concerned.

A misunderstanding appears to have arisen in regard to the settlement arrived at during the recent meeting of the Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan about some minor points of dispute on the West Bengal-East Pakistan border, along the 24 Parganas-Jessore and 24 Parganas-Khulna district boundaries. This settlement refers to a portion of the boundary along the Ichhamati river running on the east of the Police Station Gaighata. In regard to this portion of the boundary a dispute had arisen between the Survey authorities of India and Pakistan as to the basis of demarcation. The total area involved is about 550 acres. According to the agreement reached, the mean of the respective claims of India and Pakistan in this portion of the boundary would be adopted taking the river as a guide, as far as possible.

The misunderstanding with regard to this agreement appears to have arisen from a belief that the Ichhamati river throughout its stretch in the 24 Parganas has been made the Indo-Pakistan boundary. This interpretation is incorrect. The agreement in no way affects the boundaries of the Police Stations Swarupnagar and Baduria which will continue to remain within India in their entirety.

PANEL OF CHAIRMEN

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the House that under Rule 9(1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, I have appointed Shri Jaipal Singh as a Member of the Panel of Chairmen.