

[Shri Satish Chandra]

during the debate on the Standards of Weights and Measures Bill, a copy of draft Notification proposed to be issued under section 12 of the Standards of Weights and Measures Act, 1956. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1059/58].

12.20 hrs.

**CALLING ATTENTION TO A  
MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC  
IMPORTANCE**

**IMPLEMENTATION OF AGREEMENT  
REGARDING BORDER ADJUSTMENTS**

Shrimati Masida Ahmed (Jorhat): 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 progress so far made in implementation of the agreement arrived at recently in New Delhi between the Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan regarding border adjustments."

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): A number of questions have been tabled by hon. Members in regard to the implementation of the Agreement reached at the meeting of the Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan held from 9th to 11th September, 1958. One hon. Member has also tabled a notice under Rule 197 asking for a statement to be made in this regard. In view of the interest evinced by hon. Members, I take this opportunity to explain the present position.

The Agreement between the Prime Ministers dealt with the following problems and the lines of settlement to be adopted in each case:

- (i) Demarcation of boundaries held up because of differences between India and Pakistan over the interpretation of boundaries as fixed by the

Radcliffe and Bagge Awards, or because of differences over the basis of demarcation.

- (ii) Exchange of territories consequent on demarcation carried out in accordance with the Radcliffe and Bagge Awards along certain sectors of the boundary between East Pakistan and West Bengal.
- (iii) Difficulties created by the existence of Indian enclaves (old Cooch Behar State enclaves) in Pakistan and Pakistan enclaves in India.

Agreement was reached on the settlement of the problems of the first type which were holding up demarcation in the following regions:

- (i) Hilli.
- (ii) Berubari Union No. 12.
- (iii) Two Chit lands of old Cooch-Bihar State adjacent to the Radcliffe line.
- (iv) 24 Parganas district of West Bengal and Khulna and Jessore districts of East Pakistan.
- (v) Bholaganj in Assam; and
- (vi) Bhagalpur village in Tripura State.

To implement these arrangements, boundaries have to be demarcated on the ground, and boundary pillars erected. The field season for boundary demarcation starts in November. The State Governments are taking steps for demarcation of boundaries in accordance with these agreements. There have been meetings between the Directors of Land Records of the two sides for drawing up programmes of demarcation.

The above also applies to disputes regarding basis of demarcation settled at the meeting in respect of the Assam-East Pakistan boundary along

stretches of the Surma river and the Piyain river.

Date for exchange of wrongly held areas, if any, will be fixed in consultation with the State Governments concerned after the demarcation work is completed.

No agreement was reached on differences in interpretation of the Radcliffe and Bagge Awards in case of two areas along the Assam-East Pakistan boundary and on differences in interpretation of the Radcliffe Award in case of four areas along the Punjab-West Pakistan boundary. In addition, there was a difference of view regarding the basis of demarcation along the India-West Pakistan border in the Cutch-S'nd region. The Prime Ministers agreed to consider further methods of settling these disputes and specifically directed that, in regard to disputes about areas in the vicinity of Hussainiwala and Suleimanke Headworks of the Punjab-West Pakistan border, the Foreign Secretary of the Government of Pakistan and the Commonwealth Secretary of the Government of India should, in consultation with their engineers, submit necessary proposals to the Prime Ministers. No date for this meeting of the Secretaries of the two Governments has been fixed so far.

Agreement was reached on the second problem mentioned above and 15th January 1959 was fixed as the date for exchange of territories in certain sectors of the East Pakistan-West Bengal boundary, where demarcation has been completed in accordance with the Radcliffe and Bagge Awards. The Government of West Bengal have been advised to take necessary steps for the exchange of the areas in question by the due date. Necessary action is being taken by them.

Lastly, there was the question of enclaves. There are 123 Indian

enclaves which are completely surrounded by Pakistani territory, and 74 Pakistan enclaves similarly completely surrounded by Indian territory. It is not possible for the local Governments concerned to have direct access to these territories. As this led to serious difficulties in administering these areas, this problem was settled by an agreement to exchange these enclaves. Implementation of this agreement requires legislation as exchange of territory is involved. Necessary steps to that end are being taken by the Government of India. No date for the exchange of enclaves can be fixed till the legislation has been enacted and the State Governments concerned have completed necessary preliminary arrangements to carry out the exchange.

The question of vacation by the Pakistani forces of their illegal occupation of Takergram was taken up during the discussions. The Pakistan Prime Minister suggested that this should go hand in hand with the solution of the difficulties that had recently arisen in the Patharia Hill Forest area where the alleged Indian authorities had made similar encroachments and changed the *status quo*. It was finally agreed that the two Conservators of Forests and the two Chief Secretaries of Assam and East Pakistan should meet and decide the area to be exploited by each party in the Patharia Hill Forest area without overlapping on each other's areas. This will involve a temporary demarcation and will take into account *de facto* possession. Since the meeting of Prime Ministers, the Government of India have requested the Government of Pakistan to implement this part of the agreement. Correspondence has also taken place between the Governments of Assam and East Pakistan regarding the meeting of the officials to resolve the difficulties in the Patharia Hills Reserve Forest area. So far, no definite date for the meeting has been agreed to by the Pakistan authorities.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty (Basirhat):** May I just ask one thing? The hon. Deputy Minister has stated that the demarcation line between West Bengal and East Pakistan has been finalised. May I know whether this map or a detailed account of it will be laid on the Table of the House immediately so that we will be in a position to know exactly where our line ends and where their line begins?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** In the statement I have said that in certain areas demarcation has not begun in November. In certain areas we have finally demarcated.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** The demarcation between West Bengal and East Pakistan is final and the West Bengal Government has been advised to hand over the area. That is what I heard the hon. Deputy Minister to say. Before it is done, this House at least should know the map as it stands and what are exactly the portions that are going to be given because there are so many Char lands and nobody knows to whom they belong. Today they are in our possession; tomorrow they may be in somebody else's possession.

**Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati):** May I know why we have allowed Pakistan to hold Tukurgram in ransom by force against a claim they have made in the Patharia Hill Reserves? We want a proper climate created for the correct demarcation of the boundary; but East Pakistan holds by force a portion of the Indian territory over which we had never given up our claim, that is Tukurgram, only on account of their making a claim recently on the Patharia Hill area. Was it particularly discussed when the two Prime Ministers met?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** That is given in the statement.

**Shri Hem Barua:** There is nothing in it.

12.29 hrs.

### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

**The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha):** With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House for the week commencing 1st December, 1958, will consist of:—

- (1) Further consideration and passing of the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Bill, 1957, as reported by the Joint Committee;
- (2) Consideration and passing of:
  - (i) The Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly (Constitution and Proceedings) Validation Bill, 1958;
  - (ii) The Assam Rifles (Amendment) Bill, 1958;
  - (iii) The Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 1958;
  - (iv) The Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 1958; and
  - (v) The Delhi Rent Control Bill, 1958, as reported by the Joint Committee.
- (3) Discussion on late running of trains to be raised by Pandit Dwarika Nath Tiwari on 2nd December at 2.30 P.M.
- (4) Discussion on the present trends in the export trade of India and the state of the Textile Industry which contributes materially to that trade, on 3rd December, 1958 at 3 P.M. on a motion to be moved by the Minister for Commerce and Industry. This discussion will continue on 4th December.