

Shri S. K. Chowdhry, Deputy High Commissioner for India in Dacca, Shri A. Das Gupta, IFS., and Shri S. C. Ghosh, First Secretaries, Office of the Deputy High Commissioner for India in Dacca, Mr. M. A. Alvie, Deputy High Commissioner for Pakistan in India, Calcutta and Mr. Tabarak Hussain, First Secretary Pakistan High Commission in India, New Delhi, were also present.

Joint Press Communique

The 35th Conference of Chief Secretaries of East Pakistan, Assam and West Bengal and the Chief Commissioner of Tripura was held at Dacca on August 1st and 2nd 1962. The discussions at the Conference were free and frank and took place in an atmosphere of cordiality. The Conference reviewed the progress of work of demarcation of international boundary between East Pakistan and Assam, West Bengal and Tripura and considered ways and means of expediting the completion of this work by removing procedural and other difficulties. It was agreed that the work on demarcation on all outstanding sectors should begin on the 1st of November, 1962. The Conference considered the situation arising from the deportation of persons from Tripura and Assam and the influx of refugees from West Bengal to East Pakistan and *vice versa*. The Chief Secretaries of East Pakistan and West Bengal agreed to facilitate the return of the refugees to their home districts and their rehabilitation therein. The two Chief Secretaries reaffirmed the determination of their respective Governments to maintain peace and communal harmony. In this connection the Chief Secretaries noted with concern that during the recent communal disturbances a section of the Press on both sides had published highly objectionable and exaggerated stories which tended to result in inflammation of communal passions and aggravation of tension. The Chief Secretaries decided to appeal to the Press to desist

from publishing such material and, instead actively assist in the speedy restoration of normal and peaceful conditions and amity on both sides* of the border.

The Chief Secretaries agreed to hold their next meeting at Shillong (Assam) by the middle of November, 1962.

**ASSURANCES GIVEN BY MINISTERS IN THE
RAJYA SABHA**

858. SHRI R. N. KAKATI: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) the number of assurances given by various Ministers in the Rajya Sabha from 1st January, 1962 up till now;

(b) out of them, how many have been implemented so far; and

(c) what steps have been taken to remind the defaulting Ministries on this account?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA NARA-YAN SINHA) :
(a) 167.

(b) 91. (In addition, 78 assurances relating to earlier periods were also implemented and reports laid on the Table of the House during the period in question).

(c) Reminders are issued regularly wherever necessary.

**ALLOTMENT OF ACCOMMODATION TO U.
D. Cs. IN C. P. W. D:**

859. SHRI R. N. KAKATI: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Upper Division Clerks in the Central P.W.D. who are not allotted Government accommodation up till now;

(b) the number of Upper Division Clerks in C.P.W.D. who were allotted Government accommodation but re-

fused to take possession of the accommodation for one reason or the other; and

(c) in case the reasons given by them are not convincing, what action has been taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI MEHR CRAND KHANNA):

(a) 146.

(b) 11.

(c) 5 such employees were debarred for allotment of Government accommodation for a period of six months, as provided in the rules. The refusal of the remaining six was accepted as reasonable.

CASUAL LABOURERS EMPLOYED BY C. P. W. D.

860. SHRI R. N. KAKATI: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that casual labourers are employed on muster rolls for the work in C.P.W.D.;

(b) if so, what wages they are paid for a day;

(c) whether it is a fact that they are not paid for Sundays and other gazetted holidays; and

(d) if the answer to part (c) above be in the affirmative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA):

(a) Yes.

(b) The rates of wages vary according to the trades in which and the localities wherein the workers are employed.

Workers governed by the Minimum Wages Act are paid according to the minimum rates fixed under the Act. In other cases wages depend on the

prevailing local rates or the rates, if any, fixed by the State Government.

(c) and (d) All casual or muster roll labourers employed by the C.P.W.D. are paid for Sundays, provided they have worked continuously for six days. They are allowed, with wages, 3 national holidays viz 26th January, 15th August and 2nd October. On other holidays on which they are not engaged no wages are paid. Such holidays do not, however, cause any discontinuity in their employment for the purpose of grant of weekly paid holiday.

PRESS TOUR ARRANGED BY I. AND B. MINISTRY

861. SHRI R. N. KAKATI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry arranged a press tour recently;

(b) if so, which are the newspapers which were asked to send their representatives to take part in this press tour;

(c) the places they visited; and

(d) the total expenditure incurred by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN CHARGE, MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SHAM NATH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) A statement giving the requisite information is attached. [See Appendix XL, Annexure No. 81.]

(c) A copy of the itinerary of the tour is attached. [See Appendix XL, Annexure No. 82.]

(d) A sum of Rs. 19,000 was sanctioned for the tour. The actual expenditure will be known after all the bills have been received from various parties.