

**PAKISTANI ARMED POLICE FIRING ON  
INDIAN BORDER (KARIMGANJ)**

•648. SHRI S. C. DEB: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recent-Jy Pakistani Armed Police resorted to firing while some persons were engaged in work in the Patharia Hill on the Indian border of the Karimganj sub-division of Assam and kidnaped some forest labourers.

(b) whether it is a fact that Pakistanis under the protection of Pakistan Police Force are forcibly taking away a large quantity of bamboos from the Indian side of that Hill;

(c) if so, whether any enquiry was made in this connection; and

(d) what steps Government are taking to stop such illegal activities?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) Yes, Sir.

On 28th July 1957, while some Indian Forest Guards along with 9 forest labourers were engaged in road clearing work, they were chased and fired upon by about 10 or 12 Pakistani armed personnel. One labourer was injured and was kidnapped.

(b) There have been reports about trespass into Indian territory and cutting of bamboos by Pakistani nationals.

(c) The local Indian authorities enquired into the matter. The Government of Assam lodged a protest with the Government of East Pakistan. The Indian High Commissioner, Karachi, have also been asked to take up the matter with the Pakistan Government.

(d) The forest staff and other personnel have been instructed to be more vigilant in the area.

SHRI S. C. DEB: May I know, Sir, whether the local authorities have

come to any negotiations with the Pakistan authorities and whether any result has been decided upon?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Yes, the matter has been enquired into—I have already said in the answer.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Is this the first time that this firing has taken place or is it several times? If so, how many times?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Sir, such incidents are reported from time to time and if the hon. Member wants to know the number I can give. There were 46 such incidents in 1956 and up to July 1957, 16 such incidents.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Were we satisfied by lodging protests or did we take any other action also?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: In many cases as a result of negotiations the property has been returned or the kidnapped person has been released.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: For those who have been killed in these firings has any compensation been claimed from Pakistan?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: That is a general question. This question refers to a particular incident.

DR. P. C. MITRA: May I know, Sir, whether the Indian police force is keenly vigilant in that area?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: That is also given in the last part of the answer, "The forest staff and other personnel have been instructed to be more vigilant".

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know, Sir, whether the frequent protests from our side are bearing any fruit whatsoever?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: It has been pointed out in this House many times before that there is a certain procedure laid down for dealing

with such incidents. The District Magistrates from both sides consult each other. If they are not able to resolve it, the case is sent to the State Government which approaches the other State Government. If it is not resolved there, the case comes to the Central Government, and Government to Government negotiations take place.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: I wanted to know whether any results have been achieved.

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I have already said, Sir, that some results have been achieved.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: May I know whether any person was injured or killed in the recent firing incident?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: One person was injured and kidnapped and that person has not been traced yet.

\*649. [Withdrawn.]

#### RESTRICTION IN THE LENGTH OF INDI-GENOUS CINEMA FILMS

♦660. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to restrict the length of the indigenous cinema films to the size of an average English cinema film; and

(b) if so, whether Government have examined the possible effects of the proposal on the film industry of the country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) and (b). Only a suggestion regarding the length of Indian Films being reduced suitably has been made to the Indian film industry as one of the possible measures for bringing down foreign exchange expenditure on the import of raw films?

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: What is the economy that is expected out of the restriction on the length of films?

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: It is not a question of effecting economy in foreign exchange. They have cut down their imports by 30 per cent.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: What is the average length of the present films and what is the length to which they are proposed to be reduced?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Sometimes they go up as long as 20,000 feet.

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : क्या मैं यह जान सकता हूँ कि इस समय कितना फिल्म उपयोग में लाया जाता है ? इसमें भारत को बाहर से मंगाने में कितना खर्च हो जाता है और इस बारे में इम्पोर्ट एडवाइजरी बाडी ने क्या सूचना दी है ?

श्री एन० कानूनगो : करीब ३ सौ मिलियन फीट फिल्म यहाँ आता है । इंपोर्ट एडवाइजरी बाडी ने इसमें कम से कम ३० परसेंट कट करने की मंजूरी दी है जो कि उसमें से कमती हो रहा है ।

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ KAPOOR: May I know whether anything is being done to educate and train the people to go and see films which are short because, the first demand is for films of longer length of 17,000 or 18,000 feet? If they are not of such lengths, people do not see the films.

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: That is for the producers and exhibitors. It is for them to educate the people, not for Government.

SHRIMATI T. NALLABUTHU RAMAMURTI: I just wanted the Minister to give the reply in English so that we could understand it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He has already done it.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND: The hon. Minister said that imports have been