

MINISTRY OF REHABILITATION NOTIFICATIONS PUBLISHING AMENDMENTS TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF EVACUEE PROPERTY (CENTRAL) RULES 1950 AND THE DISPLACED PERSONS (COMPENSATION AND REHABILITATION) RULES, 1955.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR REHABILITATION (SHRI J. K. BHONSLE) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (i) Under sub-section (4) of section 56 of the Administration of Evacuee Property Act, 1950, a copy, of the Ministry of Rehabilitation Notification S.R.O. No. 1385, dated the 5th June, 1956, publishing an amendment to the Administration of Evacuee Property (Central) Rules, 1950. [Placed in Library. See No. S-269/56.]
- (2) Under sub-section (3) of section 40 of the Displaced Persons (Compensation and Rehabilitation) Act, 1954, a copy of the Ministry of Rehabilitation Notification S.R.O. No. 1161/R. Amdt. V. dated the 30th April, 1956, publishing further amendments to the Displaced Persons Compensation and Rehabilitation) Rules, 1955. [Placed in Library. See No. S-255/56.]

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING NOTIFICATION PUBLISHING THE REGISTRATION OF NEWSPAPERS (CENTRAL) RULES, 1956.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN) : Sir, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of section 20A of the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867, a copy of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Notification S.R.O. No. 1519, dated the 22nd June, 1956, publishing the Registration of Newspapers (Central) Rules, 1956. [Placed in Library. See No. S-258/56.]

MINISTRY OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY NOTIFICATION NO. EV-II(6)/55, DATED 18TH JANUARY 1956

THE MINISTER FOR WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH) : Sir, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of section 17 of the Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property Act, 1952, a copy

of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply Notification No. EV-II(6)/55, dated the 18th January, 1956. [Placed in the Library. See No. S-233/56.]

STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER ON HIS VISIT ABROAD

THE MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO (SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, with your gracious consent, I beg to read a statement by the Prime Minister on his recent visit abroad :

“A number of questions which refer to the recent meeting of Commonwealth Prime Ministers and my visit abroad have been submitted to you, and you have been pleased to suggest that I make a brief statement on these matters to the House.

The conferences and conversations on which I was engaged, cover a wide range of topics of common interest and of world affairs, and were largely in the way of exchange of views and clarification of positions. Where possible, we also tried to seek and find similarities of views and approach to such problems. As a rule such exchanges of views are not about specific problems that may be subsisting as between the participants in such conferences or talks.

Conferences of Commonwealth Prime Ministers, or other Ministers, take place at intervals, at times and places arranged by consultations among Commonwealth States.

At the recent meeting of Prime Ministers in London, the Prime Ministers exchanged views on matters of common interest to all of them, more particularly problems relating to current developments in international affairs. The communique issued at the end of the Commonwealth Conference has been published in the Press and is laid on the Table of the House.

The House will notice that the communique states “that the common understanding reached by the Prime Ministers will form a valuable background which will assist each Government in the formulation and pursuit of its national policies.”

This truly sets out the character of the discussions and their general

purpose. These conferences are forums for exchange and understanding, whether it be of agreements or differences. They enrich the experience of the participants and serve to inform them of both similarities and divergences of views, but they do not seek to condition, much less formulate, national decisions. These latter are matters within the exclusive competence of each country, its Government and Parliament.

I might, however, draw the attention of the House to some of these common understandings. The direction of policies to the promotion of peace, the importance of the search for a comprehensive Disarmament Agreement, the determination to strive for progressive improvement in the standards of life of their peoples, the recognition of parliamentary government as a common heritage, the respect for the aspirations of peoples to freedom and self-government, the furtherance of their own economic development and of rendering assistance to and co-operation with other countries in their development, are among those initially set out in the communique.

Personal contacts and exchange of views, resulted in our reaching a helpful, reasonable and realistic appreciation of the developments in the Soviet Union in their different aspects. These developments were regarded as "significant" and were welcomed. It was recognised that the improvement in the relations between the U.S.S.R. and the other Great Powers would help to remove the fear of war and further peace. There was also the common appreciation of the significance of Asia in the world of today, and of the situation in the Middle East and Far East. There was the recognition that a peaceful settlement of the problem of the Formosa area was imperative to stability and to removing the dangers of conflict which would frustrate the hopes of peace. I would also invite reference to the paragraph which refers to the part played by certain Commonwealth countries in seeking to maintain peace in Indo-China.

Ceylon's intention to become a Republic and her desire to remain in the Commonwealth was agreed

to which we, in this country welcome most heartily.

It is not the practice, nor would it be helpful to discuss at these conferences problems of direct concern to two or more Commonwealth States. A Commonwealth Conference does not seek to arbitrate, much less decide by Resolutions or votes, the solution to such problems. Nonetheless, the occasion of their being in the same capital at these gatherings presents opportunities to Prime Ministers, if they so wish, to have talks with one another. Such talks, whether it be of groups of countries who have certain common problems, *e.g.* Defence arrangements, etc., are however not part of the Conference proceedings.

The Conference has been a useful one. The general approach to world problems has been realistic and constructive. It is my belief that the common understandings as set out in the communique will make some useful impact not only on the thinking and approach of the participating countries, but also on other countries and nations. I would add that these Commonwealth Conference with their diverse composition and the divergences of outlooks and backgrounds, and yet displaying a capacity for tolerance and for reaching common understandings, are a good thing for the world beset as it is by the sectional outlook and much intolerance—ideological, racial and other. The date and venue of the next meeting of this Conference was not considered.

My visit to the German Federal Republic impressed me greatly. This nation, or part of it, after the most crushing defeat and destruction in war, and stricken prior to that by the crushing of the human spirit and values under the Nazis, has resurrected itself. It is truly remarkable that West Germany is today a highly successful industrial nation. She has rebuilt much of the ravages of war. The capacity for hard work and the inventiveness of these people is impressive.

The problem of German unity remains. It is the main and understandable obsession of the German people, of the West and the East.

[Shri V. K. Krishna Menon.]

In my talks with the Chancellor Adenauer I expressed my understanding of, and sympathy with, the desire of the German people for the peaceful achievement of their unity which would be facilitated by a lessening of tensions and which would contribute to the improvement of both the European and the world situation.

The German Federal Republic expressed its implicit faith in the economic future of India and its desire for co-operation in the technical, scientific and cultural spheres, which I reciprocated.

The Federal Government offered to establish, in cooperation with the Government of India, a technological institute in some part of this country, and a large number of students have been offered scholarships for technical studies in West Germany. I gratefully accepted these offers.

The Chancellor and I issued a joint communique at the end of my visit, a copy of which is laid on the Table of the House. This communique reaffirms the faith of our two countries in democracy and individual freedom and that the approach to each other and other countries should be that of friendly and peaceful co-operation, respect for national independent and sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference in the internal affairs of others. The basic aims of preserving and strengthening peace were emphasised. Two days after the date of our communique, the Chancellor issued a statement, in the course of which he said: "We reject energetically every war and share in regard to this the viewpoint of the Indian Prime Minister, which he has laid down in five political basic principles."

My brief stay in Paris enabled me to meet French leaders, including the President, the Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister. We did not issue a communique, but I am able to tell the House that these talks have helped to further the relations between our two countries and for mutual appreciation of our problems and outlooks.

At Brioni in Yugoslavia, where I went to pay a call on Marshal

Tito, opportunity for joint talks with him and President Nasser occurred. President Nasser was paying an official visit to Yugoslavia and my arrival there coincided with the last days of his stay with President Tito.

Our tripartite talks there were again on matters of common interest and World Affairs. A communique issued by the three of us as Heads of our Governments is placed on the Table of the House. We expressed our common understandings on the growing desire for peaceful and active co-existence, on the division of the World today into blocks based on fears, the imperative need for progressive disarmament and the immediate suspension of nuclear explosions. We declare our common belief that the cooperation of the People's Republic of China was imperative for the solution of problems relating to the Far East, and also expressed our support towards finding a just and peaceful solution of the problem of Algeria and the cessation of violent conflicts there.

The House will notice that in this communique the ten principles of the Bandung Conference have been reiterated.

On my way back home I halted at Cairo and also visited Beirut, the capital of Lebanon. I had previously been to Damascus, the capital of Syria. I had the opportunity to talk with the Presidents and Prime Ministers and others in Syria and Lebanon. We have much in common with these countries of West Asia, who like ourselves have recently established their national freedom and sovereignty.

At Cairo, President Nasser and his Ministers and I had further opportunities of talks, more particularly on our common problems in Asia and developments in the Middle East, such as the Baghdad Pact, as also on colonial problems. These discussions did not relate to the Suez Canal or any aspect of Anglo-Egyptian relations. The recent decision of the Egyptian Government in regard to the Suez Canal first came to my knowledge from the reports in the Press after my return to Delhi.

I had a happy and brief stay in Ireland with which country we have much in common in respect of the background of our struggle for our national freedoms.

Sir, I was out of India for a full month during which despite a crowded programme of receptions, visits, conversations and conferences, India, a modest sense of pride in her, in our own endeavours and our achievements in the creation of the new India, as well as an overwhelming although invigorating sense of the tasks ahead, has always been with me.

The friendly and enthusiastic reception which my daughter and I and our party received not only from Governments and at official gatherings but also from peoples everywhere was a constant reminder to me of the tasks ahead of us and of the vast and deep expectations that this country of ours, in the short period of her freedom, has aroused in the peoples of the World. It is a happy feeling to be aware of this, but it is even more an overwhelming one. The enthusiasm of peoples, their desire for understanding and friendship, their responses to our approach to the problem of peace and cooperation, the prevailing recognition of a resurgent Asia—all this was exhilarating. It helped me to realise more and more how shrunken the world has become and how much nations and peoples really must belong to each other.

The onward march of history has brought continents together: and yet the sharp struggles and conflicts divide them. The overwhelming weight of deadly weapons and the menace of atomic destruction have rendered peaceful co-existence the only way of survival in the immediate future. This was borne in on me by my talks with people and Governments during my travels, and I have come to realize that this is our imperative need today. For this we need goodwill and tolerance as between nations. We can make our best contribution by our example and by our persistent endeavours to promote peace and cooperation."

THE PRESS COUNCIL BILL, 1956

THE MINISTER FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. B. V. KESKAR): Sir, I beg to move.

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to establish a Press Council for the purpose of preserving the liberty of the Press and of improving the standards of newspapers in India."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to establish a Press Council for the purpose of preserving the liberty of the Press and of improving the standards of newspapers in India."

The motion was adopted.

DR. B. V. KESKAR: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE NEWSPAPER (PRICE AND PAGE) BILL, 1956

DR. B. V. KESKAR: Sir, I beg to move:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the regulation of the prices charged for newspapers in relation to their pages and of matters connected therewith for the purpose of preventing unfair competition among newspapers so that newspapers may have fuller opportunities of freedom of expression."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the regulation of the prices charged for newspapers in relation to their pages and of matters connected therewith for the purpose of preventing unfair competition among newspapers so that newspapers may have fuller opportunities of freedom of expression."

The motion was adopted.

DR. B. V. KESKAR: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE BIHAR AND WEST BENGAL (TRANSFER OF TERRITORIES) BILL, 1956—continued

MR. CHAIRMAN: We get back to the original discussion. Mr. Sinha, you have taken already forty minutes.