

a competitor and it is human uree" to protest against any competitor coming.

SHRI B. GUPTA: The logic of Hamlet.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No logic.

VISITORS TO SIGN LOYALTY PLEDGE OF U. S. GOVERNMENT

♦210. SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that an Indian educationist, visiting the United States of America as a visiting Professor was asked to sign the loyalty-pledge of the United States Government;

(b) whether any other such instances^ Indian citizens being asked to sign the loyalty pledge of the United States Government have been brought to the notice of Government; if so, what are they; and

(c) what steps Government have taken in the matter?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON) : (a) Bombay, dated the 20th January 1953, that an Indian fisherman was killed in Maldaha formation in this matter, apart from streamlet by shots fired from across the Pakistan border; a report published in *The Hindustan Times* of the 31st January 1953, regarding the refusal by Dr. D. N. Majumdar to accept a visiting professorship in California because he would not sign a loyalty oath. We are not aware of the terms of this oath or pledge. Any pledge or oath which in any way comes in the way of the allegiance due from an Indian national to his own country and its Constitution should not be taken by an Indian national.

(b) No.

(c) None.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: What is the actual date on which Dr. D. N. Majumdar was asked to sign?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: We do not know about the actual date.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: May I know if the Government is not aware of the statement of Dr. Majumdar that he was asked to sign a pledge owing allegiance to the Constitution of the United States of America?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: Yes; that is the report published in *The Hindustan Times*.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: Has the Government verified whether the report is correct and if so what is the action Government propose to take?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: All that we know is the report in *The Hindustan Times* that the hon. Member has seen. We have no further information. We can only repeat that we are interested in the matter and we are keeping in touch with Dr. Majumdar to find out the facts.

BORDER INCIDENTS

*211. SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the border incident published in *The Times of India*, (a) Bombay, dated the 20th January 1953, that an Indian fisherman was killed in Maldaha formation in this matter, apart from streamlet by shots fired from across the Pakistan border; a report published in *The Hindustan Times* of the 31st January 1953, regarding the refusal by Dr. D. N. Majumdar to accept a visiting professorship in California because he would not sign a loyalty oath. We are not aware of the terms of this oath or pledge. Any pledge or oath which in any way comes in the way of the allegiance due from an Indian national to his own country and its Constitution should not be taken by an Indian national.

(b) whether another incident occurred in Berhampore when four Indian nationals were seized by Pakistani Police party which crossed into Indian territory to arrest them;

(c) if the answer to parts (a) and (b) be in the affirmative, whether Government have taken any action in the matter so far; if so, what;

(d) whether there were any similar incidents last year; if so, at which places; and

(e) what action Government are taking to prevent the recurrence of such incidents?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON) : (a) to (c). Yes. The West Bengal Government have protested to the East Bengal Government, and have pressed for immediate joint enquiries, the release of the kidnapped Indian nationals and for deterrent action against the East Bengal policemen concerned.

(d) and (e). About 91 incidents were reported, during 1952, in widely scattered areas on the borders of West and East Bengal. The more serious of them were taken up with the East Bengal Government by the West Bengal Government, according to the existing procedure. As for steps taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents, attention is invited to the reply to Starred Question No. 441 asked by Shri S. C. Samanta in the House of the People on the 4th June 1952, which is as follows:

"(a) *Bengal border*—

From February 1950 to

April 1952.. 261

Assam border—

During 1950 and 1951...76

(b) and (c). On Bengal border, all important cases were referred to the East Pakistan Government and settlement was reached in many cases of boundary disputes, lifting of cattle and kidnapping of men. Only a few cases relating to the period prior to November 1950 and 74 later cases are still pending.

On the Assam border, 29 cases were referred to the East Pakistan Government who replied that the reports were untrue. 15 cases were referred by the East Pakistan Government to the Assam Government who, after making enquiries, found the reports to be untrue. Only one case is still pending.

(d) On the Bengal border, 147. On the Assam border, 5.

(e) (i) Under the Imlo-Pakistan Agreement of 1948, all border incidents, other than those involving questions of policy, have to be settled by District Magistrates of border districts, and failing them by Com-

missioners of Divisions. Steps have to be taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents.

(ii) It has been decided that District Magistrates and District Superintendents of Police of districts in which border raids are of frequent occurrence, should meet their opposite numbers in the neighbouring country and devise means for prevention of raids and apprehension and punishment of the culprits.

(iii) It has also been decided to resume boundary demarcation on the Gopaipara-Rangpur border of Assam and to withdraw armed forces from both sides. This agreement has not yet been put into effect.

(iv) The Bengal boundary is being demarcated in order to remove the causes of dispute.

(v) Outposts on the Indian side of the border have been strengthened in order to prevent incidents."

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Sir, as a result of the action taken, have the border incidents been decreasing?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: It is difficult to say that there has been a decrease. From the answer given the number of incidents appears large but the House will perhaps observe that serious incidents are few and mostly they are cases of cattle-lifting. If these incidents had taken place inside the country nobody would have taken notice of them except the Police. Now that they have taken place on the border they assume national interest. There has been a large number of minor incidents but it is true that sometimes serious incidents occur. It is difficult to say; at the present moment I believe there have not been any incidents at all except the one about two weeks ago. Nothing has happened since then.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: What is happening in regard to the demarcation of boundaries? The question has been pending for a long time.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: They have been partly demarcated. Perhaps there is already an answer to the

question whether it has been demarcated. It has partly been demarcated and the rest is being done.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: May I ask, Sir, whether these incidents, which will not be of international interest if they were to take place within the country, are just spontaneous, or are they inspired by organisations or Governments?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: I cannot answer it. But, normally speaking, I should say they are normal incidents that occur on the border. There are two types of incidents; one is the criminal type, by persons wishing to go across for the satisfaction of having done something. The other is the non-criminal type, by the people on the border who are in a nervy state; and when an ordinary person crosses over, they call out to the patrol-man on duty who thinks he is a 'spy' and thus gets him into trouble.

PAYMENT OF EXCISE DUTY AFTER THE SALE OF TEA

♦212. SHRIMATI PUSHPALATA DAS: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state whether Government have taken any decision on the question of deferring payment of excise duty on tea instead of the amount being deposited as soon as wagons are booked?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI T. T. KRISHNA-MACHARI) : A special procedure has been introduced for the deferred payment of excise duty on tea, under which duty on clearances made in a particular month can be paid by the last day of the succeeding month.

SHRIMATI PUSHPALATA DAS: Sir, may I know whether it is applicable to all tea gardens or only to the uneconomic ones?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: Sir, the excise authorities cannot

make a distinction. It applies to all gardens.

SALE OF COPIES OF FIVE YEAR PLAN

•213. SHRI B. V. KAKKILAYA: Will the Minister for PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether copies of the Summary of the Five Year Plan were sold inside the Nanal Nagar Pandal at Hyderabad during the All India Congress Committee session at half the marked price of the publication;

(b) whether it is a fact that copies of the same publication were at the same time sold at the marked price outside the pandal;

(c) if the answer to parts (a) and (b) be in the affirmative what was the reason for making such a discrimination; and

(d) what steps are proposed to be taken by Government to realise the full price of the copies so sold at half the marked price?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR PLANNING & IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI J. S. L. HATHI) : (a) to (c). It is the practice of the Planning Commission to distribute some copies of its publications free to interested institutions and individuals. At the Hyderabad Exhibition of the Five Year Plan, in place of free distribution, it was decided to charge 8 annas per copy for the Summary of the Five Year Plan.

(d) Does not arise.

SHRI B. V. KAKKILAYA: May I know, Sir, how many free copies were distributed?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: I have not got the actual number.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: What are the institutions to which free copies, were supplied?