

ration, right from 1955, many nationalists have been killed by the Portuguese authorities. I am talking about the nationalists who fought against the Salazar regime inside Goa.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Those persons have been helped to some extent even in the past; they may be, in future, to some extent. I do not know exactly what the position is now.

Shri Nath Pai: Are there any persons held in Goa for political reasons at present? Are Government aware? There have been complaints in the Bombay press that some persons continue to be detained and incarcerated for alleged political offences. Has the Prime Minister any information on that point?

Mr. Speaker: Against our State?

Shri Nath Pai: That is not clear but the press says there are some.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know. I have an idea that actually all of them were released. I cannot say off-hand whether one or two persons, for some special reasons, have not been released.

Sericulture Industry in Punjab

*8. **Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the amount advanced by the Central Government for the development of sericulture in the Punjab Hills during 1961-62 and the amount proposed to be given in 1962-63?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The Central Government have approved of a total outlay of Rs. 4 lakhs and Rs. 5.77 lakhs for the development of sericulture industry in the Punjab State during the years 1961-62 and 1962-63 respectively. No separate allocation has been made

for the development of sericulture industry in the Punjab Hill areas as such.

Advances are given to the State Governments every month for implementation of various plan schemes. The quantum of central assistance due to the State Government will be determined on the basis of the expenditure actually incurred by them and sanctions for the amount finally found due will be issued during the course of March every year.

Shri Hem Raj: May I know whether it is a fact that a Japanese team visited Punjab* and recommended that Kangra District was the most suitable place for the plantation of mulberry trees; if so, may I know whether action has been taken on that?

Shri Manubhai Shah: There have been three schemes sanctioned: (1) propagation of the mulberry plantation, for which Rs. 42,000 have been provided in 1961-62; (2) establishment of one plantation-cum-demonstration farm in Kulu Valley; and (3) Establishment of a chowki rearing centre in Nurpur Tehsil.

Shri Raghunath Singh: May I know the quantity of the imported shell and when India will be self-sufficient?

Shri Manubhai Shah: This would not arise from the question. From Punjab he is jumping over to the whole of India.

River Feni

*9. **Shri Bangshi Thakur:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether agreement between India and Pakistan has been reached regarding the River Feni which demarcates the boundary of Sabroom in Tripura and Ramgarh in East Pakistan; and

(b) if not, how long it will take to come to a satisfactory decision?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Negotiations between India and Pakistan are in progress. It is difficult to give a precise date by which an agreement will be reached.

Shri Bangshi Thakur: May I know whether it is a fact that, if the demand put forward by Pakistan relating to the settlement of the Feni River dispute is conceded, some area of which India is the rightful owner will go to Pakistan?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I do not understand the question still, but as I understand it, the dispute is as to where the Indo-Pakistan boundary is, either in the middle of the river or on one side. The Pakistanis claim that the whole river falls to them. Our claim is that the boundary should be in the middle of the river. That is the main contention.

Shri Hem Barua: In view of the fact that this problem of the Feni River has been hanging fire for a very long time and every time we are posted with one information only namely that negotiations are proceeding with Pakistan, may I know the nature of the present negotiations?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Negotiations are on the official level.

Mr. Speaker: Their nature he wants to know.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Their nature is: each party puts forward its claim, supported by such evidence as it has. It is a very old dispute, originally between the Tripura administration and the then British India. It is a continuation of that.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: What is the international practice with regard to demarcation of rivers? All other river boundaries with Pakistan are, I think, along the middle of the river. What is the reason for an ex-

ception being demanded in this case and the matter being held up because of this?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I cannot speak as an international lawyer. But, it seems to me reasonable and pretty obvious that the boundary should be lying in the middle of the river and not on one side of it. That is the normal case. But, in this case, the dispute is a very old one. There are many ramifications. Obviously, we consider the boundary should be in the middle of the river.

Shri Bangshi Thakur: In view of the fact that for long the negotiations have been proved to be fruitless, may I know whether the Government of India is willing to take up the negotiations at the Central Government level? If so, when?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The negotiations are going on. The Central Government is being kept informed. The Central Government occasionally writes to the Central Government of Pakistan. But, actually, the examination is done by the local governments or the officials concerned. The Central Government is not out of the picture in this.

Radio-Activity in Calcutta

*10. **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government of India has been drawn to recent newspaper reports that some Calcutta Scientists who made investigations into the radio activity contents in rain water in Calcutta on the 27th January, 1962, have detected an abnormal increase of radio-activity in it;

(b) whether Government have made any enquiries about it; and

(c) if so, full details of the matter?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) Government have seen a press re-