

passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 7th December, 1960, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

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12.03 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE Sittings OF THE HOUSE

TWENTY-SECOND REPORT

Shri Mulchand Dube (Farukhabad): Sir, I beg to present the Twenty-second Report of the Committee on Absence of Members from the sittings of the House and also to lay on the Table a copy of the statement showing the names of Members who have been absent for 15 days or more continuously during the Eleventh Session.

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12.04 hrs.

PETITION RE: PROPOSED DIVISION OF BERUBARI UNION BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri (Berhampore): Sir, I beg to present a petition signed by a petitioner relating to the proposed division of Berubari Union No. 12 between India and Pakistan.

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12.04½ hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

KILLING OF TWO SEPOYS OF MANIPUR RIFLES BY NAGA HOSTILES

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): Sir, under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of

urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

"The reported death of 2 sepoys of an advance party of Manipur Rifles and injuries to another in an encounter with Naga hostiles on the 9th December, 1960."

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri G. B. Pant): On the morning of the 9th December 1960, about 80 Naga hostiles fired upon an advance guard of the Manipur Rifles animal transport convoy in the vicinity of mile 26 on the Kangchup Tamenglong State Highway. The hostiles had taken up positions by encircling the bridle path from three sides. The main escort party quickly joined the advance guard and returned the fire. In the encounter which lasted for about five hours, two Riflemen were killed and one wounded. The number of hostile casualties is not known. All Government stores and animals were saved and only one web belt and one bayonet were lost. Reinforcements have been sent in and further action is being taken against the hostiles. On the morning of the 10th December, personnel of the Manipur Rifles combed the area and made some arrests.

As Members are aware, there has been some spurt in Naga hostile activity in Manipur after the announcement of Government's intention to constitute a new State of Naga Land. While Government's announcement has been well received by the mass of the Naga people, the hostiles have been trying to delay the implementation of the agreement reached with the Naga People's Convention so as to bolster up their own failing influence. The hostiles have, therefore, made attempts to intimidate those who are co-operating in the implementation of the Delhi agreement. In spite of their tactics, the hostiles have not met with any success. Elections to the Interim Body are proceeding apace and have been almost completed. 37 of the 45 seats have been filled and elections remain to be com-