

ALEGGED MUSLIM CONCENTRATION ON EAST PAKISTAN BORDER

Mr. Speaker: I have received another notice. Shri P. C. Borooah.

Shri P. C. Borooah (Sibsagar): Under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Prime Minister to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"Pakistan U.N. Mission's allegation regarding large-scale Muslim concentrations on East Pak border."

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Events have happened in Malda, certain unfortunate events, and grossly exaggerated accounts about them have been published in the Pakistan newspapers and, indeed, in foreign papers too. I am afraid I cannot in a brief statement say what has happened in Malda. We are getting more facts, but the accounts given about the large-scale deaths and casualties and migration of large numbers of Muslims to Pakistan, I am quite sure, are very grossly exaggerated.

Then, in Dacca and Rajshahi also incidents have happened, resulting in killing and burning, arson etc. It is very difficult to get exact figures about these because, just as on the one side they are exaggerated, on the other side they are minimised in the Pakistan accounts. We do not wish to exaggerate or minimise all the facts. Both these incidents, in Dacca and Rajshahi and Malda, have been unfortunate; and it is no use exaggerating them or minimising them. We are trying to get all the facts. I do not think whether it would help if I gave some odd fact here and there. I cannot give the complete set of facts until further information reaches us.

Several Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: I cannot allow it to develop into a regular discussion.

12:16 hrs.

ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEES

INDIAN CENTRAL JUTE COMMITTEE

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri S. K. Patil): Sir, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of clause (9) of paragraph 3 of the late Department of Education, Health and Lands Resolution No. F.254/34/A, dated the 28th May, 1936, as amended by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture Resolution No. F. 4-13/53-Com-II, dated the 17th December, 1955, the members of Lok Sabha do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Indian Central Jute Committee."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That in pursuance of clause (9) of paragraph 3 of the late Department of Education, Health and Lands Resolution No. F.254/34/A, dated the 28th May, 1936, as amended by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture Resolution No. F. 4-13/53-Com-II, dated the 17th December, 1955, the members of Lok Sabha do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Indian Central Jute Committee."

The motion was adopted.

INDIAN CENTRAL OILSEEDS COMMITTEE

Shri S. K. Patil: Sir, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (s) of section 4 of the Indian Oilseeds Committee Act, 1946, as amended from time to time, the Members of Lok Sabha do proceed to elect in such manner as the Speaker may direct, four