

(2) (i) A copy of the Certified Accounts together with the Audit Report thereon (Hindi and English versions) of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation for the year 1972-73.

(ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the above papers.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1883/78].

NOTIFICATION UNDER CUSTOMS ACT
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
ZULFIQARULLAH): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Notification No. 67-Customs (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd March, 1978 under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962, together with an explanatory memorandum.

12.04 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:—

(i) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1978, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 16th March, 1978, 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."

(ii) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (Railways) Bill, 1978, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the

20th March, 1978, 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."

(iii) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (Railways) No. 2 Bill, 1978, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 20th March, 1978 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."

(iv) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (Railways) No. 3 Bill, 1978, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 20th March, 1978 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."

(v) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 115 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 21st March, 1978, agreed to the following amendments made by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 23rd February, 1978, in the Children (Amendment) Bill 1977.

Enacting Formula

1. That at page 1, line 1,—
 for "Twenty-eight"
 Substitute "Twenty-ninth"

Clause 1

2. That at page 1, line 3,—
for "1977" substitute "1978"

(vi) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 21st March, 1978, agreed without any amendment to the Interest Bill, 1978, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 22nd February, 1978."

12.06 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER
OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED DECISION OF UNITED STATES
TO PUT OFF RELEASE OF ENRICHED
URANIUM FOR TARAPUR ATOMIC
POWER STATION

SHRI OM PRAKASH TYAGI (Bahraich): Sir, I 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:

"The reported decision of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission to put off the release of enriched uranium for the Tarapur Atomic Power Station and the consequences arising out of it."

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, enriched uranium which is not produced in India is required for the manufacture of fuel for the Tarapur Atomic Power Station but not for any of our other nuclear power stations which are of different designs. The bilateral agreement for cooperation between the Government of the United States and the Government of India provides that all requirements of enriched uranium for use

as fuel at Tarapur shall be made available by the U.S. and that India shall not obtain these from any other sources. Accordingly, enriched uranium is being imported only from the U.S.A. On an average about 17 to 21 tonnes of enriched uranium is being imported only from the USA every year. In accordance with the current procedures in the United State, consignments of enriched uranium required for Tarapur Atomic Power Station are subject to an export licence to be given by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (USNRC), a quasi judicial body which is independent of the U.S. Government Executive Branch. These export licence applications for enriched uranium are considered by the USNRC after clearance is conveyed by the Executive Branch. Presently two licences are pending with U.S. Department of Energy for 7.6 tonnes and 16.7 tonnes of enriched uranium respectively. The consignment of 7.6 tonnes was due to have been shipped in September 1977 and Licence XSNM 1222 applied for on 1st November, 1977 is scheduled for shipment between April and October 1978. These requirements closely follow the schedules worked out in consultation with experts deputed by the U.S.A. for this purpose in September, 1976.

The despatch of the first consignment was delayed because the non-proliferation Bill dealing with long-term policy of the U.S. Government was under the consideration of the Congress. Nevertheless during his visit to India in January, 1978, President Carter announced in Parliament that the shipments of nuclear fuel will be made for the Tarapur Reactor. On 26th January, 1978, the Executive Branch of the U.S. Government recommended to the U.S. NRC that the licence for the pending application for 7.6 tonnes of enriched uranium be issued. On February 13, 1978, three environmentalists Groups in the U.S.A. namely, the National Resources Defence Council, the Union of Concerned Scientists and the