

1957 from the Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Government of Kerala, and vesting the same in the Director (Agriculture) Government of Kerala. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4313/83].

REVIEW ON AND ANNUAL REPORT OF ORISSA AGRO INDUSTRIES CORPORATION LTD CUTTACK FOR 1974-75 AND STATEMENT FOR DELAY.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): I beg to lay on the Table.

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Orissa Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Cuttack, for the year 1974-75.

(ii) Annual Report of the Orissa Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Cuttack, for the year 1974-75 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4314/82].

12.12 hrs.

#### MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

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

"In accordance with the provisions of Rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am

[Rao Birendra Singh]

directed to enclose a copy of the Navy (Amendment) Bill, 1982, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 20th July, 1982."

#### NAVY (AMENDMENT) BILL

AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA

Secretary: Sir, I lay on the Table of the House the Navy (Amendment) Bill, 1982, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

12.13 hrs.

#### CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED SEX DETERMINATION TESTS

MR. SPEAKER: Shri M. M. Lawrence—absent.

Shrimati Suseela Gopalan.

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN (Alleppey): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Health and Family Welfare to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The reported sex determination tests carried on by private doctors in the country resulting in large scale destruction of female foetuses which will bring down the already declining female sex ratio, harm the mothers' health and cause deformity to the children."

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): Mr. Speaker Sir, The Government shares the serious concern of the Hon'ble Members of this House on the subject of alleged abortion of female foetus on the basis of sex determination tests conducted by some private doctors.

2. Tests are sometimes conducted in order to detect congenital deformities and sex-linked genetic disorders