

a copy of the Certified Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Coffee Board for the year 1973-74 and the Audit Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1745/78].

ANNUAL REPORT OF NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR 1976-77

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of National Cooperative Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1976-77, under sub-section (3) of section 14 of the National Cooperative Development Corporation Act, 1962. [Placed in Library See No. LT-1746/78].

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER CENTRAL EXCISES AND SALT ACT, 1944 AND ANNUAL REPORT OF UNITED INDIA FIRE AND GENERAL INSURANCE CO. LTD., MADRAS FOR 1976 AND A STATEMENT RELATING THERETO

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIKARULLAH): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944:—

(i) The Central Excise (Third Amendment) Rules, 1978, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 444 in Gazette of India dated the 25th February, 1978.

(ii) The Central Excise (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 1978, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 445 in Gazette of India dated the 25th February, 1978. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1747/78].

(2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi* versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Annual Report of the United India Fire and General Insurance Company Limited, Madras, for the year ended 31st December, 1976 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(ii) A statement explaining that Government are in agreement with the above Report and therefore no separate Review on the working of the Company is being laid [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1748/78].

12.01 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER ABOUT MERGER OF SIKKIM

SHRI SAUGATA ROY (Barrackpore): 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 statement by the Prime Minister that Sikkim merger, was wrong”

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): Sir, the Hon' Members are exercised over the report of the press interview which I gave and which has been published in the newspapers on the question of Sikkim. I have not used the term 'annexation'; I spoke of merger. In response to a specific question by the correspondent I observed that the

*English versions of the documents were laid on the Table on the 23rd December, 1977.