

[Dr. Pratap Chandra Chunder]

Renuka Devi Barkataki, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Accounts of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, New Delhi, for the year 1977-78 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the accounting year. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4067/79].

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Accounts of the Central Tibetan Schools Administration, New Delhi, for the year 1977-78 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the accounting year. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4068/79].

(3) (i) A copy of the Certified Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Training in Industrial Engineering, Bombay, for the year 1977-78 along with the Audit Report thereon.

(ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the above accounts. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4069/79].

URBAN LAND (CEILING AND REGULATION) AMENDMENT RULES, 1979

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI RAM KINKAR): Sir I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulations) Amendment Rules, 1979 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 79(E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd February, 1979, under sub-section (3) of section 46 of the Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976 together with an explanatory memo-

randum. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4070/79].

INDIAN TELEGRAPH (1ST. AMNDT.) RULES, 1979

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Indian Telegraph (First Amendment) Rules, 1979 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 178 in Gazette of India dated the 3rd February, 1979, under sub-section (5) of section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4071/79].

RICE-MILLING INDUSTRY (REGULATION AND LICENSING) (AMNDT.) RULES, 1979

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Rice-Milling Industry (Regulation and Licensing) (Amendment) Rules, 1979 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 80(E) in Gazette of India dated the 23rd February, 1979, under sub-section (4) of section 22 of the Rice-Milling Industry (Regulation) Act, 1958. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4072/79].

12.10 hrs.

Statement re. Presence of U.S. Naval Task Force in the Gulf Area

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have read with considerable concern reports that the United States Government are despatching a carrier-led naval task force to the Indian Ocean and the Gulf Area. Committed as we are to keep the Indian Ocean free from naval presence and rivalry of great powers, we are distressed at

this announcement. This is contrary to the spirit of the U.K. resolution on keeping the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace.

The latest move cannot, in our view, assist the process of bringing stability is a region which has seen serious upheavals and is still seething with tensions and uncertainty. Stability in the region will, first and foremost, depend on the countries themselves and the resolution of bilateral problems and regional cooperation between them. The world community as well as the economics of many of the countries which depend on the oil supplies from this region, would like the flow of oil to continue and not threatened, the production not impeded, and peaceful trade to go on across the Indian Ocean.

The Arab league met only a few days ago and agreed upon measures to be taken to bring about cessation of hostilities and an understanding between the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the Yemen Arab Republic, following the conflict which has taken place recently between the two countries. In keeping with the spirit of the Arab league recommendations and our own policy, we would urge and end to the hostilities on the basis of non-interference and respect for established frontiers between countries.

Efforts at stability and mutual respect and harmonious relations are shared by all nations of the region and serve the interests of countries outside the region. The increased military and naval presence in the area and fears of involvement of great powers can have adverse political and economic consequences which would not ease but only add to the tensions in this vital region.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Chirayinkil): Sir, I rise on a point of order. It is a very serious matter. You, in your wisdom, allowed the hon. Minister of External Affairs to make a statement. We wanted to ask questions. We know that the Government

is anxious. Many hon Members have given notices of Calling Attention because this gives them an opportunity to say something and ask questions on the subject, and it also gives an opportunity to the hon Minister to explain the Government's stand.

(Interruptions).

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN (Badagara): It is a serious matter, Sir. It should be debated.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: It would have been better if you had allowed a Calling Attention.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: You keep on allowing them to make statements. You please look into your file. You will see that we have given many Calling Attention Notices. You are just not bothered.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY (Barrackpore): People have risen in revolt against the rules in North Yemen. Saying that there is big-power rivalry is not enough. We have in the past made the mistake of supporting the Shah. Now we should not equate North Yemen and South Yemen. It should at least have been put in the List of Business.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Saugata Roy, I am not allowing any debate now. Please resume your seat. Calling Attention would be there. The fact that he is making a statement does not preclude the Calling Attention. There is no point of order.

Now, Shri Satish Agarwal.

12.15 hrs.

PONDICHERRY BUDGET, 1979-80

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL) Sir, The House is aware that the functions and powers of the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Pondicherry are