agree to relaxation of the period of 5 years by one to one and a half years for a period of two years. Pending Union Public Service Commission's concurrence, this relaxation has been allowed in respect of 6 Assistant Executive Engineers (Civil) and 2 Assistant Executive Engineers (Electrical) of the 1963 batch for promotion as Executive Engineers on an *ad hoc* basis.

IMPLEMENTATION OF MALKANI REPORT

199. SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE : Will the Minister of SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the progress, if any, which has been achieved in respect of implementing the Malkani Report recommendations regarding an end to the practice of Harijans carrying headloads of night soil; and

(b) whether Government would ensure that this practice could cease before the end of the Gandhi Centenary year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE (DR. SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA): (a) The scheme for eradication of the practice of carrying night-soil as headloads has made some progress. In Kerala and Maharashtra particularly, the practice has almost been eliminated. In some places it has, however, been a little difficult to implement the recommendations because of the prevalence of the Jagirdari System (Customary rights) for scavenging among sweepers and the reluctance on the part of conservative sweepers to adopt the new methods of working.

(b) Manual disposal of night-soil can be stopped only by banning the construction of dry latrines, converting all dry latrines into flush latrines. This will involve large scale financial implications besides amendment of municipal and other laws. It is not, therefore, possible to indicate a specific time limit for this purpose at this stage.

डीजल तेल में मिलाबट

200. श्री मृत्युंजय प्रसाद : क्या पंट्रो-लियम और रसायन मंत्री यह बताने की कपा करेगे कि (क) क्या उनका ध्यान 18 अक्तूबर 1968 को ''आर्यावर्त'' समाचार पत्न में डोजल तेल में मिलावट के परिणामस्वरूप राज्य परिवहन को हुई करोड़ों रुपये की हानि णीर्षक के अन्तर्गत छपे समाचार की और दिलाया गया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उन तेल कम्पनियों के नाम क्या हैं, जिनके पट्रोल पम्पों में मिलावट डोजल था: और

(ग) इसके वारे में सरकार की **क्या** प्रतिकिया है?

पैट्रोलियम तथा रसायन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री रघुरमैया): (क) से (ग). अपेक्षित सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और यथा समय सभा-पटल पर रखदी जायगी।

12 Hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

ANNUAL REPORT OF AGRICULTURAL REFINANCE CORPORATION

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRf MORARJI DESAI): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report of thc Agricultural Refinance Corporation, Bombay, for the year ended the 30th June, 1968 along with the Audited Accounts, undersub-section (2) of section 32 of the Agricultural Refinance Corporation Act, 1963 [Placed in Library, see No. LT-2005/68]

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT RE : INDIAN Railways (Amendment) Ordinance, 1968.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the explanatory statement giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Indian Railways (Amendment) Ordinance, 1968. [Placed in Library see No. LT-2006/68.]