13993 Statement Re: VAISAKHA 16, 1885 (SAKA) Part I of the Report 13994 of the Attorney-General and

12.09 hrs.

CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO STARRED QUESTION NO. 7637

The Minister of Works, Housing and Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): Sir, in the reply given to a supplementary to Starred Question No. 637, answered in the Lok Sabha on the 28th March, 1963, I had mentioned that the summary of the recommendations of the Chanda Committee was laid on the Table of the House of the Lok Sabha on 4th January, 1963. It was actually so laid on the 22nd January, 1963.

12.09 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: PART I OF THE REPORT OF THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND SHRI A. V. VISVA-NATHA SASTRI

The Minister of Industry in Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): Sir, I rise to make a statement about the request made by some hon. Members of this House last Saturday that Part I of the report of Shri C. K. Daphtary and Shri A. V. Vishwanatha Sastry be placed on the Table of the House. This House will remember that in his statement on the 29th April, the Law Minister had explained, why Government considered it undesirable in the public interest, to place this part of the Dhaptary-Sastry report on the Table of the House. In the light of the discussion on the floor of this House last Saturday and in pursuance of the assurance given to you, Sir, at that time, Government have now looked into the alleged disclosure of this part of the report. They regret to have to say that the documents circulated to some hon. Members of this House appear to be correct copies of Part I of the Daphtary Sastry report, Government deplore the leakage of the secret document, and have already ordered an urgent enquiry into the circumstances in which this leakage place.

Shri A. V. Visvanatha Sastri
Since this part of the DaphtarySastry report is already in circulation,
Government do not consider that any
useful purpose will be served now by
continuing to treat this part of the
report as secret. I am therefore, laying it on the Table of the House

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): I congratulate the Minister.

to the Lok Sabha Secretariat.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-1310/

63]. Copies have been made available

Shri Daji (Indore): My submission is this. The matter raised by us with your permission did not merely relate to the leakage of some secret official Government document; it was something more than-that. As I had made myself clear on that day, it also concerned propriety. A document which was not to be disclosed in the public interest because it will give an indication about the possible action by Government to the parties concerned has leaked out after the same document was withheld from the House on the ground of public interest and privilege. Therefore I would like to know two things. The hon. Minister says that an inquiry has been instituted. I would like to know the agency that is conducting the inquiry. In the peculiar circumstances of the case where the privilege of the House and propriety are involved, I would request that a small committee of the House itself should be entrusted to inquire as to who is responsible for this leakage. We would like to know who is conducting this inquiry.

Mr. Speaker: That is not the stage at this moment. The Government has instituted the inquiry. When that report comes to us, it would be the stage....(Interruption). This is not the stage when the House should institute an inquiry. The Government has instituted an inquiry. Let that inquiry be completed. Probably some persons might be found guilty and put up for trial or other proceedings might be taken against them....(Interruption). That is not our business now let them make the inquiry at this moment.