

[Shri A. K. Sen]

No. S.O. 2935 dated the 11th October, 1963, under sub-section (3) of section 28 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1892/63].

- (2) The Conduct of Elections (Second Amendment) Rules, 1963 published in Notification No. S.O. 2936 dated the 11th October, 1963, under sub-section (3) of section 169 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1893/63].

12:11 hrs.

CLARIFICATION OF STATEMENT ON RICE POSITION

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): In the statement regarding rice position made by me on the 19th November...

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Barackpore): There is so much noise in the House that we could not follow what he is reading.

Mr. Speaker: Those hon. Members who have to go out may walk out quietly. Other hon. Members, I suppose, would kindly hear silently the proceedings that take place here.

12:10 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:—

- (i) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 20th November, 1963, agreed without any amendment to the Specific Relief Bill, 1963, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 13th August, 1963."
- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 20th November, 1963, agreed without any amendment to the Administrators-General Bill, 1963, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 13th August, 1963."

Shri Warrior (Trichur): Then, you may ask him to read it slow. If it is read at high-speed, we cannot know what it is.

Shri A. M. Thomas: Sir, in the statement regarding rice position made by me in the Lok Sabha on the 19th November, 1963, I appear to have given the impression that card-holders in Calcutta have been drawing their rations from fair price shops at subsidized rates of Rs. 16 to Rs. 18 per maund and that outside Calcutta similar number has been about 56 lakhs. This is the price at which the common varieties of rice are made available from Central Government stocks to the Government of West Bengal for the purpose of distribution through fair price shops. The actual prices paid by the consumer for purchases from fair price shops however include the incidental expenses of the State Government, such as those incurred on the handling, transport, storage etc. of the rice and the retailer's margin.

An Hon. Member: But what is the actual price?

Mr. Speaker: The price given by the hon. Minister is Rs. 16—18 per