

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): Is he calling for a report on this matter from the West Bengal Government? That is the point. The Police Force is involved. Is he calling for a report from the West Bengal Government on this matter and laying it before the House as soon as it comes?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Kamath is making a suggestion. Certainly the Government will take it into consideration.

Shri Hem Barua: You have said like this. We are in your hands entirely, but we want you to help us in getting the information.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member knows more than myself what measures can be adopted, and he says that I should guide him as to how to compel the Government. I am helping him certainly when I am allowing him so many questions and interference and interjections and even interruptions and obstructions. Certainly I am helping him so much. Now I crave his indulgence that I may be allowed to go further.

Shri Nath Pai: The Prime Minister is willing to say something.

Mr. Speaker: This is what is desired, that this information may be got from the West Bengal Government.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Naturally, now that the matter has attracted attention here, it would be got. We have not received any information so far as I know. I have heard nothing about it. This is the first time I have heard, and I cannot answer it. Whether it was a matter of great importance or less importance depends on the context of things. Anyhow, I have no information. I can only enquire and if it is important, will let the House know.

12.13 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

SCARCITY OF PRINTING PAPER IN MADRAS

Shri Umanath (Pudukottai): Under Rule 197 I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Commerce and Industry to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The situation arising out of the scarcity of printing paper in Madras."

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): There is now no scarcity of printing paper in Madras City. The paper mills are releasing stocks as usual. There was, however, dislocation of movement on the Calcutta-Madras line because of a train accident which occurred some time last month. Normal traffic was resumed within a few days and special trains were run from Dalmia Nagar to Madras in order to carry paper from Rohtas Industries. The dislocation of traffic was only for a few days, and the situation now is normal. Paper is moving to Madras as usual, and no scarcity has been reported.

Shri Umanath: May I know whether the attention of the hon. Minister has been drawn to a report in the Madras Mail last week that there was scarcity in Madras City and there was scrambling for printing paper and that the paper mills were not going to release the paper to the traders till a decision was given by the Government of India on the revision of prices sought by them? May I know whether the hon. Minister's attention has been drawn to that Press Report?

Shri Kanungo: If there is such a report in the Press, it is entirely wrong.