

12.15 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 3rd December, 1962, agreed without any amendment to the Warehousing Corporations Bill, 1962, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 29th November, 1962."

(ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 97 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the East Punjab Ayurvedic and Unani Practitioners (Delhi Amendment) Bill, 1962, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 4th December, 1962."

12.15½ hrs.

EAST PUNJAB AYURVEDIC AND UNANI PRACTITIONERS (DELHI AMENDMENT) BILL

LAI'D ON THE TABLE, AS PASSED BY
RAJYA SABHA

Secretary: Sir, I lay on the Table of the House the East Punjab Ayurvedic and Unani Practitioners (Delhi Amendment) Bill, 1962, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

12.15½ hrs.

ARREST OF ALLEGED SPY

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): I made a statement the other day about the arrest of Budhabir Singh and the hon. Members wanted further information.

One Budhabir Singh, son of the late Ratnabir Singh of village Makhantol, Kathmandu, Nepal, was arrested by the Gauhati Police on the 28th October, 1962, as he was found in possession of two cameras and loitering in suspicious circumstances in the Fancy Bazar, Gauhati. He was brought to the Gauhati Police Station and interrogated. He had been living with his family in Kalimpong since 1960. He arrived in Gauhati after a visit to Imphal on the 26th October accompanied by his servant. He admitted having taken some photographs at Shillong, Imphal and Gauhati. After his arrest on the 28th October, 1962, the hotel in which he was staying was also searched but nothing incriminating was found. On the 29th October, he was produced before the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Gauhati, along with his servant and orders were passed remanding them to jail till the 12th November, 1962. Bail petitions were moved on the 30th October, 1962 through a pleader at Gauhati, and the Additional District Magistrate granted both of them bail for a sum of Rs. 500 each with one surety each.

Reports received from the Kalimpong Police showed that there is nothing adverse against either Budhabir Singh or his servant on the police records. The statement made by Budhabir Singh to the Police at Gauhati was also found to be correct on local verification. The films found in the seized cameras were developed but did not reveal anything to indicate that Budhabir Singh or his servant were engaged in any espionage activity. However the matter is being further investigated.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): On a point of clarification, may I ask whether it is a fact, when bail was granted or was about to be granted by the magistrate concerned, the police who had arrested this particular individual protested very strongly against the grant of bail, and on a paltry sum of Rs. 500 at that, that in spite of the