

12.28½ 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 sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (Railways) Bill, 1966, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 24th March, 1966, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (Railways) No. 2 Bill, 1966, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 24th March, 1966, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

12.29 hrs.

COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES
FOURTH REPORT

Shri S. V. Krishnamoorthy Rao (Shimoga): I beg to present the Fourth Report of the Committee of Privileges.

12.29½ hrs.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

NINETY-SIXTH AND NINETY-SEVENTH
REPORTS

Shri A. C. Guha (Barasat): I beg to present the Ninety-sixth and Ninety-seventh Reports (Parts I and II) of the Estimates Committee on the Ministry of Transport—Bombay Port.

12.29½ hrs.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON OFFICES
OF PROFIT
FOURTH REPORT

Shri G. N. Dixit (Etawah): I beg to present the Fourth Report of the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit.

12.29¾ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC
UNDERTAKINGS

Twenty-third Report

Shri K. N. Pande (Hata): I beg to present the Twenty-third Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings on Indian Airlines Corporation, New Delhi.

12.30 hrs.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Education (Shrimati Soondaram Ramachandran): On behalf of Shri Chagla, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (1) (xii) of section 19 of the Visva-Bharati Act, 1951, read with clause (5) of Statute 10 of the First Statutes of the University, the members of Lok Sabha do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Samsad (Court) of the Visva-Bharati for the next term."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (1) (xii) of section 19 of the Visva-Bharati Act, 1951, read with clause (5) of Statute 10 of

the First Statutes of the University, the members of Lok Sabha do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Samsad (Court) of the Visva-Bharati for the next term."

The motion was adopted.

12.30 hrs.

RE. FOOD SITUATION IN WEST BENGAL

Mr. Speaker: Members may now put questions on the food situation in West Bengal.

श्री यशपाल सिंह (कैराना) : एक तरफ आप कहते हैं कि बंगाल में खाने की कमी नहीं है और दूसरी तरफ आप यह भी कह देते हैं कि जी लैफ्टिस्ट लोग हैं वे जनता को बहका लेते हैं। जब वहां पर खाने की कमी नहीं है और लैफ्टिस्ट लोग जनता को बहका लेते हैं तो यह तो वहां की गवर्नमेंट की नालायकी हुई कि खाना रहते हुए भी थोड़े से मुट्ठी भर लैफ्टिस्ट लोग जनता को बहका लेते हैं और सरकार कुछ नहीं कर पाती हैं। क्या सरकार ने कभी यह जानने की कोशिश की है कि इसका असल कारण क्या है और कितना वहां की विरोधी पार्टियों ने मांगा था और कितना सरकार ने दिया और बीच में जो गैप है, उसको कब तक पूरा किया जाएगा ?

The Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation (Shri C. Subramaniam): Sir, I thought I made it clear. There was a shortage in the production and there is a gap between the supply and demand. That is why we are supplementing whatever is available in West Bengal with wheat which is being supplied from the central reserves. I have also indicated that as far as Calcutta is concerned the ration was reduced during November be-

cause of the difficulties with regard to the availability of wheat due to the pause in the P.L. 480 arrivals. It was reduced to a total supply of 1900 grams per week. Now it has been stepped up to 2000 grams per week, which is the quantity supplied except in one place, in all the other areas. Only 2000 grams per week is being given in Delhi, in Kanpur, in Madras, in Coimbatore and in all the other statutory rationed areas. 2000 grams is the maximum that is being given in all these places, whatever might be the content with regard to wheat and rice. That limit has been now reached in Calcutta. Therefore, from 1900 grams it has been raised to 2000 grams and orders have been issued in regard to that. In modified rationed areas, where there is no statutory rationing, they were giving 1500 grams and now it has been stepped up by another 300 grams and the people there would be given 1800 grams per week. This is the main thing. And, to meet this demand on this basis, whatever extra wheat is available we are making available to West Bengal Government.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Sir, on page 5 of the statement the Minister says:

"I am sure that with all these steps taken by the West Bengal Government to increase the availability of foodgrains to the public, the situation in that State should improve considerably."

Then he says:

"Government of India is in constant touch with West Bengal Government and all possible measures will be taken to help the West Bengal Government to meet the difficult situation in that State"

This means, Sir, it is admitted by the hon. Minister that the situation in West Bengal is difficult. I would like to know whether he is aware that on 6th April a call has been given for a day's hartal despite the assurance given by the Chief Minister because