

12.08 hrs.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE**Seventy Seventh Report and Minutes
and Seventy third Action Taken
Report.**

SHRI BANSI LAL (Bhiwani) : I beg to present the following Reports and Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the Estimates Committee :-

- (i) Seventy-seventh Report on the Ministry of Home Affairs (Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms)-All India Services, and Minutes of the sittings of the Committee relating thereto.
- (ii) Sixty-third Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Forty-fifth Report of the Committee on the Ministry of Railways-Production Units.

**RAILWAY CONVENTION COMMITTEE
ELEVENTH REPORT**

SHRI D.L. BAITHA (Araria) : I beg to present the Eleventh Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Railway Convention Committee (1980) on 'Cost of Operation of Railways (Cost of Materials)'.

12.09 hrs.

**STATEMENT RE : BURNING OF
RAILWAY STATIONS IN PUNJAB
AND THE SHOOTING OF
SOME PERSONS AT AMRITSAR**

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.C. SETHI) : Sir, During the night of 14th-15th April, 1984, terrorists made attempts to burn railway property in Railway Stations in various parts of Punjab. According to reports received from the State Government, 39 Railway

Stations in 8 districts were involved in such cases. Twelve of these Railway Stations are in District Ferozepur, 8 in district Bhatinda, 4 in District Amritsar, 5 in District Faridkot, 3 in District Ludhiana and 2 each in the districts of Jalandhar, Gurdaspur and Kapurthala. On the night of 15th-16th April, 1984 Railway property in one railway Station in District Roper was damaged. These are mostly wayside stations. In most of these incidents, miscreants entered the station building and set fire to records and furniture. There was no dislocation of railway traffic and none was injured in these incidents. The AISSF and their sympathisers are believed to be responsible for these acts. 144 AISSF activists have been arrested till the 16th in this connection, according to reports received so far.

2. There have been some incidents of violence involving extremist groups in or near the Golden Temple complex. On 14.4.1984 at about 11.30 A.M., Shri Surinder Singh Sodhi, a proclaimed offender wanted in a number of cases; and believed to be a supporter of Shri Bhindranwale was shot dead at a Sindhi Hotel near Guru Ram Das Sarai in Amritsar by two persons believed to be one Surinder Singh alias Chhinda and a lady. A case FIR No. 130 U/s 302/307 IPC and Sections 25/27/54 Arms Act has been registered on 14.4.1984 in connection with the killing of Surinder Singh Sodhi. Four persons, namely, Kuldip Singh, Rajinder Singh, Gurcharan Singh and Gurdip Singh who were sitting in the hotel, also received minor injuries.

3. The dead body of Shri Surinder Singh alias Chhinda was recovered near village Manawal in Amritsar on 16th April, 1984. The same day, Shri Malik Singh Bhatia, Jathedar of the Amritsar City Jatha of the Talwandi Group of the Akali Dal was shot dead in the Golden Temple complex. On the same day, Shri Barjinder Singh Baiji, reportedly a close associate of Shri Gurcharan Singh, Secretary,