

[Shri K. D. Malaviya]

(2) Notification No. MII-152(271)/53, dated the 9th March, 1954. [Placed in Library. See No. S-195/54.]

(3) Notification No. MII-159(1)/54, dated the 9th April, 1954. [Placed in Library. See No. S-196/54.]

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

PRESENTATION OF EIGHTH AND NINTH REPORTS

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Gurgaon): I beg to present the following:

(i) Eighth Report of the Estimates Committee on the Damodar Valley Corporation; and

(ii) Ninth Report of the Estimates Committee on the Administrative, Financial and other Reforms.

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

PRESENTATION OF THIRD REPORT

Shri Raghubarasaiah (Tenali): I beg to present the Third Report of the Committee on Petitions.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Committee on Absence of Members in its Third Report has recommended that Leave of Absence be granted to **Shri Chowkhamoon Gohain**, **Shri Shyam Nandan Mishra**, **Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani**, **Shri Devi Datt Pant** and **Shri Bhajahari Mahata** for the periods indicated in the Report. The Committee has further recommended that in the cases of **Shri Sibnarayan Singh Mahapatra** and **Shri B. Shiva Rao** who had been absent without permission, their absence for the period indicated against each in the report may be condoned.

I take it that the House agrees with the recommendations of the Committee.

Some Hon. Members: Yes.

Leave was granted and absence condoned.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have to inform the hon. Members that copies of the two publications containing opinions of the State Governments on the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 1954 (Group A and Group B) have been received from the Ministry of Home Affairs for distribution to hon. Members in pursuance of the undertaking given by the Minister of Home Affairs in the House on the 3rd May 1954. These have been placed in the Publications Counter for distribution to hon. Members. Hon. Members may collect their copies from the counter.

STATEMENT RE. PURCHASE OF TRACTORS FOR CENTRAL TRACTOR ORGANISATION

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): I rise to make a brief statement on the Seventh Report of the Estimates Committee in so far as it concerns the Central Tractor Organisation. I was asked if I would accept a short notice question which covered a number of points to which specific attention had been drawn by the Estimates Committee. Until the report had been fully examined, it would not have been possible for me to answer all the questions satisfactorily and I suggested, therefore, that, if the Speaker so desired, I would make a brief but general statement. I am grateful to him for having given me this opportunity to do so.

It will help in appreciating the position in respect of the Central Tractor Organisation properly if at the outset I recall briefly the situation as it obtained in 1949. We were then faced with a serious food shortage. That, as you will remember, was the year in which our imports of foodgrains were as high as 3.8 million tons. It was in that year again that we decided to achieve self-sufficiency by 1951. The Foodgrains Policy Committee had recommended that the Ministry of Agriculture should take up immediately for reclamation the 85 million acres