

inflationary situation. An increase in agricultural production thus constitutes the pivot of developmental effort and for this we need the fullest co-operation of every section of the community.

A statement of the estimated receipts and expenditure of the Government of India for the financial year 1957-58 will be laid before you for the purpose of passing votes on account authorising expenditure for a part of that year. In addition, a similar statement in respect of the Kerala State will also be laid before you for passing a vote on account for a part of the year for that State.

This session of Parliament will be a brief one and no major or controversial legislation will be taken up during this session. Some Ordinances which have been promulgated since the last session will be placed before Parliament.

Five years ago this Parliament came into existence representing the vast electorate of this great country, and it has laboured for the well-being and advancement of India and for peace and co-operation in the world. These labours have produced substantial results which we see all round us in the country, and I wish to offer you, Members of Parliament, my congratulations on the great tasks that have been accomplished. But there is no resting place for any of us and the great story of the building up of a new and prosperous India will continue to unfold itself, bringing happiness to all our people and serving the cause of world peace and co-operation.

I earnestly trust that the message of the Buddha, whose anniversary we recently celebrated, will ever guide us, and the spirit of the Father of the Nation will continue to inspire us.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

FOOD SITUATION IN EASTERN U.P.

Mr. Speaker: I have received notice of an Adjournment Motion tabled by Shri S. L. Saksena. It says:

"That the House do adjourn to consider the failure of the Gov-

ernment to take adequate measures to meet to near-famine conditions prevailing in the various districts of Eastern U.P., particularly in Gorakhpur, Deoria and Basti districts, where the early paddy, late paddy and the Rabi crops have all failed owing to draught, floods, heavy and untimely rains and hailstorms repeatedly during the last three years, leading to utter destruction of the peasantry and resulting at the present day in mass starvation of the people".

How is this an urgent matter? It has been there for nearly three years.

Shri S. L. Saksena (Gorakhpur Distt.—North): It is now that the backbone of the peasantry has been broken, and the position is very bad in these days. In fact, during our election campaign, I found that people were starving for three, four and five days continuously, and nothing was done to relieve their suffering. I therefore think that something should be done. Unless adequate measures are taken to give employment and food to the people, there will be starvation in the very near future.

Mr. Speaker: Is the State Government not there? What has the hon. Minister to say?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): As you have rightly observed, the distribution of foodgrains is the responsibility of the State Government. So far as the Government of India are concerned, we are placing at the disposal of the State the quantities of foodgrains that it requires. I am not in possession of very accurate facts at the moment, but generally the facts are that the State Government has been taking large quantities; it has opened a large number of shops; foodgrains are being sold at subsidised rates, well within the buying capacity of the people. I am not aware of any mass starvation or anything of that kind. In fact, conditions, if anything, have improved lately on account of the approach of the Rabi

[Shri A. P. Jain]

season when the crop will be coming. And prices have, of late, eased. Neither is there any urgency about the matter, nor are the details mentioned by the hon. Member correct.

Mr. Speaker: In view of the statement made by the hon. Minister that prompt and adequate steps have been taken and the State Government—which is solely responsible for this subject—has been supplied with sufficient quantity of foodgrains for purposes of distribution, and, as alleged in the notice, this is a matter which has been going on for nearly three years, and effective steps seem to have been taken by the State Government—if there is still any deficiency, I am sure both the Centre and the State will collaborate and try to relieve the misery apprehended by the hon. Member—I do not feel called upon to give my consent to this Motion for Adjournment.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

NOTIFICATION UNDER THE REQUISITIONING AND ACQUISITION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY ACT

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): I lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of section 17 of the Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property Act, 1952, a copy of the Notification No. EV, 11(8)/56, dated the 12th December, 1956. [Placed in Library. See No. S-2/57.]

ORDINANCES PROMULGATED BY THE PRESIDENT

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): On behalf of Shri Satya Narayan Sinha, I beg to lay on the Table, under the provisions of Article 123(2)(a) of the Constitution, a copy of each of the following Ordinances promulgated by the President after the termination of the Fourteenth Session, 1956, of Lok Sabha :

1. The Foreigners Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 1957 (No. 1

of 1957). [Placed in Library. See No. S-17/57.]

2. The Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Ordinance, 1957. (No. 2 of 1957). [Placed in Library. See No. S-18/57.]

AMENDMENTS TO CINEMATOGRAPH (CENSORSHIP) RULES

Dr. Keskar: I lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of section 8 of the Cinematograph Act, 1952, a copy of S.R.O. No. 2785, dated the 24th November, 1956, making certain further amendments to the Cinematograph (Censorship) Rules, 1951. [Placed in Library. See No. S-3/57.]

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE I.C.A.R.

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research for the year 1953-54. [Placed in Library. See No. S-4/57.]

NOTIFICATION UNDER TAXATION ON INCOME (INVESTIGATION COMMISSION) ACT

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Shri M. C. Shah): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of section 4 of the Taxation on Income (Investigation Commission) Act, 1947, a copy of the Notification No. 97, dated the 22nd December, 1956. [Placed in Library. See No. S-5/57.]

AMENDMENTS TO ESTATE DUTY RULES

Shri M. C. Shah: Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of section 85 of the Estate Duty Act, 1953, a copy of each of the following Notifications, together with the Explanatory Notes, making certain further amendments to the Estate Duty Rules, 1953:

- (1) Notification No. 46/4/20/56-ED., dated the 17th December, 1956.