

white. If, as he said, letter was received by him, a single line letter with a signature, that sets the matter at rest. But I would request hon. Members that whenever they make a serious statement of this kind, they must thoroughly satisfy themselves about its authenticity. Anything that appears in newspapers is not necessarily authentic. Hon. Members have to weigh the pros and cons.

But so far as this matter is concerned, inasmuch as the hon. Member says that he received it but that he mislaid it, I would certainly take his statement for it. Therefore, nothing more need be done.

For the future, I would request hon. Members that whenever they make a serious statement of this kind, they must rely upon authentic statements, and even when they read a letter, either handed over to them or sent to them by post, they must, if they get time, make it doubly sure before they make any responsible statement on the floor of the House.

Shri Kamath: Only for want of time, I could not have it authenticated.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

APPROPRIATION ACCOUNTS (POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS) 1954-55 AND AUDIT REPORT, 1956, PART II

The Minister of Finance and Iron and Steel (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): I beg to lay on the Table, under article 151(1) of the Constitution, a copy of the Appropriation Accounts (Posts and Telegraphs), 1954-55, and the Audit Report, 1956, Part II. [Placed in Library. See No. S-591/56]

AMENDMENTS TO CENTRAL EXCISE RULES

The Minister of Revenue and Defence Expenditure (Shri A. C. Guha): I beg to lay on the Table, under section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944, a copy of the Notification

No. 18-CER/56, dated the 27th November, 1956, making certain further amendments to the Central Excise Rules, 1944 [Placed in Library. See No. S-592/56].

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS

Shri Altekar (North Satara): I beg to lay on the Table the minutes of the sittings of the Committee on Absence of Members from the sittings of the House (Twentieth and Twenty-first) held during the Fourteenth Session.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following three 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 17th December, 1956, agreed without any amendment to the Territorial Army (Amendment) Bill, 1956, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 23rd November, 1956.'
- (ii) 'In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 162 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Finance (No. 2) Bill, 1956, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 12th December, 1956, 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.'
- (iii) 'In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of

[Secretary]

rule 162 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Finance (No. 3) Bill, 1956, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 12th December, 1956, 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.'

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

SIXTY-SEVENTH REPORT

Sardar Hukam Singh (Kapurthala-Bhatinda): I beg to present the Sixty-seventh Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

THIRTY-EIGHTH REPORT

श्री ब० गो० मेहता (गोहिलवाड) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं सामुदायिक विकास मंत्रालय (सामुदायिक परियोजना प्रशासन) के बारे में प्राक्कलन समिति (एस्टिमेट्स कमेटी) की अड़तीसवीं रिपोर्ट भाग १ पेश करता हूँ।

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mr. Speaker: The Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House in its Nineteenth Report has recommended that leave of absence may be granted to the following Members for the periods indicated in the Report:

- (1) Rt. Rev. John Richardson.
- (2) Shri Kotha Raghuramajah.
- (3) Shri M. Hifzur Rahman.
- (4) Sardar Baldev Singh.

- (5) Shri Chandikeshwar Sharan Singh Ju Deo.
- (6) Dr. Edward Paul Mathuram.
- (7) Shri A. K. Basu.
- (8) Shri K. Janardhan Reddy.

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

Shri K. K. Basu (Diamond Harbour): May I know the reason for the absence of Rev. Richardson? He is a nominated Member. I think this House should advise the President on this. For ninety per cent of the days, he is absent. I feel the House should advise the President not to nominate him to the next Parliament.

Shri Tulsidas (Mehsane West): I remember he attended the last session. He comes from Nicobar and it is very difficult for him to go over here.

Mr. Speaker: The reports are first laid on the Table. The hon. Members should get copies of the report and look for themselves. If any further explanation is necessary, they may put their questions.

The hon. Member has requested leave of absence for the entire period of the Fourteenth Session. He is unavoidably engaged in the community project work in Nicobar. The total period of absence from 14th November to the 22nd December 1956 amounts to 39 days. The Committee on Absence of Members are of the opinion that the hon. Member be granted leave of absence for this period.

Shri Altekar (North Satara): Mr. Speaker, he has written a long letter requesting that leave be granted to him as he is engaged in the community project work. A wooden bridge which was constructed in 1952 was washed away and that bridge was again constructed in 1954. That too was recently washed away. Now it has been decided that a pucca bridge should be constructed. Cement