

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). Necessary information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha shortly.

Panchayat Elections in Delhi State

1644. Shri Awasthi: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to hold fresh elections to the Panchayats in Delhi State in the near future;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) the reasons for the delay in holding the elections?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes. This will, however, be the first and not a fresh election under the Delhi Panchayat Raj Act, 1955.

(b) and (c). Certain amendments have to be made in the Delhi Panchayat Raj Act, 1955, and the Delhi Land Reforms Act, 1954 so as to bring them into conformity with each other. These amendments are at present under consideration and the elections will be held soon after the Acts have been amended.

Embezzlement of Soldiers' Welfare Fund

1644-A. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether Colonel Limaye, Station Commander of Delhi Area, is

involved in embezzlement of huge amounts of money of Soldiers' Welfare Fund; and

(b) if so, whether any action is being taken against him?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramiah): (a) It has been reported to Government that there are reasons to believe that ex-Col. R. H. Limaye, who was adm. Comdt. Delhi, has misappropriated a fairly large sum of money belonging to Regimental Funds, Welfare Funds, the Rampur Fund of the Station Headquarters and the Private Fund account of the Station Staff Officer, Red Fort.

(b) The officer is absconding and his whereabouts are not known since July 1956. The case has been handed over to the civil police and is being investigated by them.

12 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

STATEMENTS SHOWING ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON VARIOUS ASSURANCES ETC.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following statements showing the action by the Government on various assurances, promises and undertakings given by Ministers during the various sessions shown against each:—

- (1) Supplementary Statement No. II . . . Second Session, 1957 of Second Lok Sabha.
[See Appendix V, annexure No. 68]
- (2) Supplementary Statement No. III. . . First Session, 1957 of Second Lok Sabha.
[See Appendix V, annexure No. 69]
- (3) Supplementary Statement No. V . . . Fifteenth Session, 1957 of First Lok Sabha.
[See Appendix V, annexure No. 70]
- (4) Supplementary Statement No. VI . . . Fourteenth Session, 1956 of First Lok Sabha.
[See Appendix V, annexure No. 71]
- (5) Supplementary Statement No. XIII . . . Thirteenth Session, 1956 of First Lok Sabha.
[See Appendix V, annexure No. 72.]

AMENDMENT TO MINERAL CONCESSION to lay on the Table under Section 10 of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1948, a

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): I beg copy of each of the following notifi-

ations making certain further amendments to Mineral Concession Rules, 1959:—

(1) S.R.O. 2879 dated the 24th August, 1957.

(2) S.R.O. 2753 dated the 31st August, 1957.

[Placed in Library See No. S-272/57.]

BUDGET ESTIMATES OF EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE CORPORATION, 1957-58

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: On behalf of Shri Abid Ali, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Revised Estimates for the year 1956-57 and Budget Estimates for the year 1957-58 of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation, under section 36 of the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948.

[Placed in Library. See No. S-273/57.]

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam): These estimates relating to 1957-58 are being laid on the Table just at the fag end of the session. You remember, last time, when the annual report for 1954-55 was laid on the Table, my hon. friend Shri Prabhat Kar asked why there was delay. There is no reply so far to that also. Now, they are coming forward with this. My hon. friend Shri M. Elias gave notice for a discussion on the report. It could not be allowed for want of time. There is a lot of discontent prevailing about the working of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation. If they lay the report at the fag end of the session, when can we discuss? This should be taken serious note of.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Labour Minister may kindly be informed.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: I shall do so.

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): The reports for 1955-56 and 1956-57 are not yet ready.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: When the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs comes, he should come forward with these things. The Minister is absent. When we raised it last time also, he was not present.

Mr. Speaker: Occasionally, some Ministers are absent. What can be done? Hon. Members will have an interval. They may study and come fresh for the next session.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: There is no time in this session in any case.

Mr. Speaker: They want further information regarding this matter so that they may be ready.

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): On behalf of Shri M. V. Krishnappa, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following Notifications, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:—

(1) S.R.O. 1697, dated the 25th May, 1957.

(2) S.R.O. 1895, dated the 8th June, 1957.

(3) S.R.O. 2366, dated the 20th July, 1957

[Placed in Library. See No. S-274/57.]

Shri Ranga (Tenali): Is it necessary for the principal Minister himself to go on laying statements here, on behalf of his Deputy?

Shri A. P. Jain: It is entered in his name

Mr. Speaker: It is so in the Order Paper. The hon. Minister wanted to make the record correct.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION ARISING OUT OF ANSWERS GIVEN TO QUESTION

The Deputy Minister of Education and Scientific Research (Shri M. M. Das): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the statement in reply to Half-an-Hour discussion raised on the 31st August, 1957 on the replies given to starred Question No. 388 on the 25th July, 1957, regarding Medicinal Plants Organisation and Utilisation of Crude Drugs.

[See Appendix V, annexure No. 78.]