

[Sardar Swaran Singh]

setting out the decisions of the Government thereon. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-1559/59].

CASES OF TENDERS NOT ACCEPTED BY INDIA STORE DEPARTMENT

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): Sir, on behalf of Shri K. C. Reddy, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the statement of cases in which the lowest tenders have not been accepted by the India Store Department, London, during the half-year ending the 30th June, 1959. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-1560/59].

ANNUAL REPORT OF REGISTRAR OF NEWSPAPERS FOR INDIA

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report of the Registrar of Newspapers for India for the year 1958. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-1561/59].

REPORT ON WORKING OF CENTRAL SILK BOARD

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Administrative Report on the Working of the Central Silk Board for the financial year 1958-59. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-1562/59].

12.30½ hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:—

"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 21st August, 1959, agreed without any amendment to the Wakf (Amendment) Bill, 1959, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 11th August, 1959."

12.31 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: ACCIDENT TO HOIST CHAMBER AT BHAKRA

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim): Sir, in the statement that I made on Saturday, the 22nd, I informed the House that I proposed to pay an immediate visit to Bhakra Dam, to ascertain on the spot after a personal inspection, the full facts regarding the unfortunate mishap that occurred there on 21-8-1959. I visited the site on 23-8-1959, inspected the visible features of the damage, conferred with the Project authorities and quite a number of experts including the Chairman and a Member of the Bhakra Board of Consultants who had been specially summoned to make an on-the-spot study. The 'Hoist Chamber' is a subterranean chamber, 300 feet below ground, embedded in the hill forming the right abutment of the Bhakra gorge. It is 150 feet away from the point where the dam structure meets the right abutment. It is a highly reinforced box-type concrete structure built in a specially excavated cave and is located just above the right diversion tunnel. The only access to it is through a gallery, leading into the hill from the system of galleries in the main dam. This chamber was constructed to house the machinery to operate two sets of gates installed in the right diversion tunnel to control and regulate discharge from the Bhakra reservoir. The whole arrangement was necessary, not only to regulate irrigation releases through this tunnel, but also to effect the storage of water in the reservoir, commencing from the monsoon of 1958 and was intended to function only for a temporary period, that is,