

[Shri H. N. Mukerjee]

done about which we are not to be taken into confidence. This is a very undesirable state of affairs. The Prime Minister is very keen on informing us about this matter, and I am very happy about it. He said that it is immaterial whether it was within the ambit of the West Bengal Government or the Central Government, but let us find out with more expedition as to what has happened.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: We admit that it must be done with full speed and full competence and even if the West Bengal Government is holding an enquiry the Central Government should also do it.

Mr. Speaker: Even though it will take some time, I hope the hon. Minister will make a statement before the end of this week.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It is not a question of time. It should be done as soon as possible. An enquiry is being made, and as soon as it is completed, it should be made available.

12.22 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: CHINGHAI-TIBET
 HIGHWAY

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): On the 27th of November, the hon. Member, Shri Goray, tabled an adjournment motion in the House, based on the newspaper report about the Chinghai-Tibet highway. In that newspaper report, it was suggested that this was across Indian territory. I stated in the House that, according to my information, this did not pass through Indian territory, that it was an entirely different route and had

nothing to do with the other route which might be in the people's minds, which goes across the Aksai-Chin area. In fact, the Chinghai-Tibet highway goes through the north east of Tibet. We have enquired about this matter further, and what I have stated in this House has been confirmed. The Chinghai highway is nowhere near Indian territory.

12.24 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON
 ASSURANCES

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 taken by the Government on various assurances, promises and undertakings given by the Ministers during the various sessions of Second Lok Sabha:

- (i) Supplementary Statement No. II—Eighth Session, 1959. (See Appendix II, annexure No. 38.)
- (ii) Supplementary Statement No. IX—Seventh Session, 1959. (See Appendix II, annexure No. 39.)
- (iii) Supplementary Statement No. XV—Fifth Session, 1958. (See Appendix II, annexure No. 40.)

AMENDMENTS TO INDIAN POLICE SERVICE
 (PAY) RULES

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): I beg to lay on the Table under sub-section

(2) of section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951, a copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 1212, dated the 7th November, 1959, making certain further amendments to Schedule III to the Indian Police Service (Pay) Rules, 1954. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1738/59.]

**HIMACHAL PRADESH HINDU MARRIAGE
REGISTRATION RULES**

The Deputy Minister of Law (Shri Hajarnavis): I beg to lay on the Table under sub-section (3) of section 8 of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, a copy of the Notification No. LR.1-77/55, dated the 25th July, 1959 containing the Himachal Pradesh Hindu Marriage Registration Rules, 1959, published in Himachal Pradesh Gazette. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1739/59.]

**AMENDMENTS TO CENTRAL EXCISE
RULES**

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): I beg to lay on the Table under section 36 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944, a copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 207, dated the 1st April, 1958, making certain further amendment to the Central Excise Rules, 1944. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1740/59.]

**REPORT OF LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION
OF INDIA**

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: I beg to lay on the Table under section 29 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956, a copy of the Report of the Life Insurance Corporation of India for the year ended 31st December, 1958 along with the Audited Accounts. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1741/59.]

12.26 hrs.

**CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER
OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

**COLLAPSE OF ROOF INSIDE SRIPUR
COLLIERY**

Shri N. E. Muniswamy (Vellore): Under rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Labour and Employment to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

"Reported death of 7 persons due to collapse of roof inside Sripur Colliery on 19th November, 1959."

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): As the hon. Members are already aware, the regrettable accident took place in Sripur Colliery at 4 A.M. on the 19th November, 1959. The mine is situated in the Burdwan District of West Bengal.

From the preliminary report received, it appears that while some workers were loading coal on a belt conveyor and some timber mazdoors were putting roof supports, a mass of roof coal measuring 25' x 12' x 3', approximately thirty tons, fell from a height of 8 feet from the junction of two galleries, killing seven loaders instantaneously. Three persons received minor injuries, and one serious injuries.

Rescue measures were undertaken immediately and the bodies of the unfortunate persons, buried under the debris, were removed after clearing the fall.

About 3,800 persons are employed in the colliery and the accident has not resulted in any unemployment. The officers of the Mines Department are inquiring into the accident. Further details will be placed on the Table of the Sabha in due course.