

(4) Supplementary Statement No. VII—Fifteenth Session, 1957 of First Lok Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 50.]

(5) Supplementary Statement No. XV—Thirteenth Session, 1956 of First Lok Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 51.]

(6) Supplementary Statement No. XIX—Twelfth Session, 1956 of First Lok Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 52.]

PETITION RE INDIAN RAILWAYS ACT, 1890

Secretary: Sir, under Rule 167 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I have to report that a petition as per statement laid on the Table has been received in respect of the Indian Railways Act, 1890.

Statement

Petition No.	Brief subject	Number of signatories	District	State
13	In respect of the Indian Railways Act, 1890.	1	Kaim-ganj	U.P.

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

SMUGGLING OF RICE FROM ANDHRA PRADESH

Shri N. R. Munisamy (Vellore): Under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Food and Agriculture to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement hereon:

"Smuggling of rice from Andhra Pradesh and consequent increase in Price of rice".

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): The Government of India are aware that stocks of rice are being taken out of the southern zone from Andhra Pradesh in contravention of their orders. It is likely that but for this the prices would have been lower than what they are at present in Andhra Pradesh and in other States in southern zone.

The Central Government have prohibited the movement of rice by rail from stations in the delta districts of Andhra to certain stations out of the southern zone bordering on Bombay and Goa. The Government of Mysore have created a no-movement-zone round Goa, and have also taken steps to prevent smuggling of rice by road into Goa and the State of Bombay.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh were advised by the Central Government early in December, 1957 and again early in January 1958 to take necessary steps to prevent smuggling of rice by road from that State outside the southern zone. No report has so far been received from the State Government indicating what steps, if any, they have taken.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Mr. Speaker, I should like to give some general business to be about the legislative measures and other business to be brought forward before the Lok Sabha during this session.

A major part of the session will be taken up with the discussion and voting of the Demands for Grants in respect of the Railway and the General

[Shri Jawaharlal Nehru]

Budgets scheduled to be presented on February 17 and 28th respectively. The programme of dates for the financial Bills has already been communicated to the Members.

Among the more important new Bills to be introduced apart from the Finance Bill, will be the Merchant Shipping Bill, the Trade and Merchandise Marks Bill, the Indian Statistical Institute Bill and the Banking Companies (Amendment) Bill. All these will be taken into consideration except for the Merchant Shipping Bill which it is proposed to refer to a Joint Committee.

The Probation of Offenders Bill, which is expected to be reported by the Joint Committee shortly, will be taken into consideration during the session.

Certain other items of legislative business likely to be brought forward have already been communicated in the probable list of business for the session.

According to the usual practice, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs will announce at the end of each week the business for the following week.

May I add that it is my intention to lay on the Table of the House in the course of possibly two days the report received of the commission of enquiry appointed in regard to certain transactions of the Life Insurance Corporation? I received that report yesterday, and we are immediately taking steps to get copies made or printed. Possibly by day after tomorrow they will be ready, and I shall have them placed on the Table of the House.

Further, it is our desire to have a discussion on that at the earliest convenient opportunity. Perhaps the most convenient time would be immediately after the conclusion of the debate on the President's address.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta—Central): Can I make a request to you that along with the report, the evidence which was given before the Chagla Commission should also be placed before us, because I feel we can only discuss the report satisfactorily if we can go into the evidence at least to a certain extent? Otherwise, we shall not be able to have a satisfactory discussion.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: There is nothing secret about the evidence. It has appeared in the press, but it is physically impossible for us to place the evidence. If it is to be printed, it will take, I imagine, two to three weeks.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: They can be placed in the Library. We are prepared for voluminous study and reference of this matter.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It is not that. It is a question of our being ready. I cannot place it. I do not know even where it is yet, but presuming we can get it, copies to be made of that is a very lengthy affair. As a matter of fact, this case was very well reported in the newspapers.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Basirhat): There are certain chunks of evidence which have not appeared in the newspapers, and that is why at least a few copies should be made available to Members and put in the Library, even if each one cannot get a copy.

Shri V. P. Nayar (Quilon): We cannot go by the newspaper reports.

Mr. Speaker: Is it the desire of the hon. Members that this debate may be put off by a fortnight?

Some Hon. Members: No, no.

Mr. Speaker: Then it cannot be placed in the Library.

An Hon. Member: Copies.

Mr. Speaker: If it is possible to have one or two copies, we shall try.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not yet know where it is.

Shri Achar (Mangalore): In the Library they may keep at least a dozen copies of the evidence.

Mr. Speaker: There the matter stands. If we want to have it as early as possible, we may not be able to have the copies. It is to be taken up after the President's Address, after only two or three days, very shortly after the President's Address, hon. Members may or may not have the copies. Government will try to find out if it is possible. If it is possible, one copy may be placed; otherwise, we will go with the evidence that has been made available in the press.

STATEMENT RE: CRASH OF AN I.A.F. AIRCRAFT

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): Government deeply regret to have to inform the House that an Indian Air Force Bomber, a Liberator, struck high hills in bad weather near Coimbatore and crashed at 0915 hours on the 5th of February, 1958, and all the 10 service personnel who were on board were killed. The aircraft was completely destroyed.

This aircraft was on a routine naval operational exercise and flying from Sulur, Coimbatore, to Cochin. The names of persons involved in this fatal accident are Fit. Lt. D. Kochar, Fg. Off S D Jadav, Fg. Off. A. K. Ghosh, Fg. Off N. K. Tamhankar, Lt. C. P. Ramachandran (Navy), Warrant Officer C. B. Menon, Fit. Sgt. S. Govindaswami, Sgt. K. Natarajan, Sgt. S. N. Sharma and Sgt. S. S. Sachar.

The next-of-kin of the above personnel were informed as soon as information of the accident and the fatalities were known to Air Headquarters and according to usual practice. Claims for compensation etc. will be considered and implemented in accordance with rules and promptly. Personal messages of sympathy and condolence were sent

by me on behalf of the Armed Forces and the Government to the next-of-kin of each of the above personnel by a personal letter.

Government would like to pay their tribute in this House to these valiant officers of our Armed Forces who thus lost their lives in the course of the discharge of their duties in the service of the country. Although nothing by way of any statement can serve to replace the great grief of the bereaved, the sympathy of Government and this House will, we hope, in some small measure, serve to assuage their feelings of grief and be of some consolation to the fellow officers and men who worked with them and feel their loss very deeply. Government also hope that the next-of-kin and other bereaved will find the strength to make the re-adjustments imposed upon them by this calamity.

A court of Enquiry according to Air Force rules has been ordered. No further particulars are available at present nor can be given until the findings of the Court of Enquiry are received, as any such can only be based on speculation or inadequate information and will therefore nor be fair or purposeful.

CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO SUPPLEMENTARY TO STARRED QUESTION No. 1142

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): In reply to a supplementary question asked by Shri Thirumala Rao on the 16th December, 1957, arising out of Starred Question No. 1142 by Shri Jhulan Sinha regarding interest on loans to shipping companies, I had stated that about Rs. 50 crores were to be invested in the non-lapsable Shipping Development Fund made up of contributions from the Consolidated Fund of India of Rs. 10 crores during the years 1957-58, 1958-59, 1959-60 and 1960-61 and repayments of the loans