

(b) whether these companies have complied with all the statutory requirements of the company law such as holding of annual meetings, submission of annual audited accounts and filing of documents with the Registrars of Companies;

(c) if not, the names of the companies and the nature of the defaults committed by them; and

(d) the action, if any, taken by the Company Law Department against the defaulting companies?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) A list of Government companies reported to be at work as on the 31st January, 1958, is placed on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 53.]

(b) to (d). Necessary information is being collected. A statement furnishing the information will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

#### PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

##### HALF-YEARLY REPORT OF COIR BOARD

The Minister of Industry (Shri Mannbhai Shah): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (1) of Section 19 of the Coir Industry Act, 1953, a copy of the Half-Yearly Report on the working of the Coir Board for the period ending 30th September, 1957. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-655/58.]

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

##### RELATION OF RESTRICTIONS ON TRAVEL TO GOA

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandesh): Sir, under Rule 197 I beg to call the attention of the Prime Minister to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request

that he may make a statement thereon:—

"Relaxation of restrictions on travel to Goa".

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): The decisions to abolish the permit system on travel between India and the Portuguese possessions in India was taken after full consideration. This was done chiefly at the request of Goan national leaders in Bombay. The Government were aware that there were conflicting views even among the Goan leaders and political parties on this question. But, in the balance, it was considered desirable to put an end to this system and thus meet the wishes of a large number of Goan leaders. The permit system had served a useful purpose in so far as it induced greater political consciousness among certain sections of the people. But Government came to the conclusion that it had outlived its utility.

It should be clearly understood, however, that strict measures for preventing smuggling will continue and steps will also continue to be taken to prevent Portuguese propaganda within Indian territory.

A Press Note was issued a few days ago explaining that the relaxation will apply only to civilians in the Portuguese possessions who are of Indian origin. A further notification will be issued giving a precise definition of the classes of people who will be covered by the present classification, the routes that would be followed for travel to and from Goa and Bombay, the amount of money which each person will be able to carry with him both for outward and inward journey, and other related details. The position will be reviewed from time to time and if any modifications of our present decision are called for, there will be no hesitation to make the necessary changes.