

Members will have 2½ hours more. As to when it should be held, it is for the Government to decide. Government's business should have priority. Non-officials have no right to advise Government to give priority to one or the other.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): We are anxious to give it time early. Now that this question has arisen, it is better for it to continue without a big gap. We accept that and I shall ask my colleague to try to fix that up.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

AUDIT REPORT AND APPROPRIATION ACCOUNTS

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following papers:—

- (i) Audit Report, Defence Services, 1959 (including Report on the Appropriation Accounts of the Defence Services and the Commercial Appendix thereto for the year 1957-58), under Article 151(1) of the Constitution.
- (ii) Appropriation Accounts of the Defence Services for the year 1957-58 and Commercial Appendix thereto. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1544/59.]

REPORT OF INDIAN DELEGATION TO GATT SESSION

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report of the Indian Delegation to the 14th Session of the Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade held in Geneva in May, 1959. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1545/59.]

AMENDMENT TO COTTON CONTROL ORDER

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, a copy of Notification No. S. O. 1737 dated the 8th August, 1959, making certain further amendment to the Cotton Control Order, 1955. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1543/59].

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

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

- (i) "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 18th August, 1959, agreed without any amendment to the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Bill, 1959, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 12th August, 1959."
- (ii) "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 19th August, 1959, agreed without any amendment to the Indian Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 1959, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 5th August, 1959."

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

FIFTEENTH REPORT

Shri Mulchand Dube (Farrukhabad): I beg to present the Fifteenth

[Shri Mulchand Dube]

Report of the Committee on Absence of Members from the sittings of the House I also lay on the Table a copy of the statement showing the list of Members who have been absent for fifteen days or more continuously from 1st April, 1959 to 9th May, 1959 during the Seventh Session.

CORRECTION OF STATEMENT RE SITUATION IN PONDICHERRY

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Lakshmi Menon): On the 10th August, 1959, I made a statement on the 'situation in Pondicherry' immediately after the Question Hour arising out of the allegation made earlier that Shri Ramalingam, a candidate of the People's Front for Pondicherry Elections, had been arrested and was thus being prevented from doing normal election work. In the course of my statement I said "The fact of the matter is that one of the Communist members, Shri Ramalingam, was arrested three months ago for causing grievous hurt and was convicted in the lower court" I wish to make a correction to this sentence. What I intended to say was that he was arrested and refused bail before he was nominated to be a candidate. He has not been convicted and his case is yet to be tried. I suggest that, with your permission, the Parliamentary record be corrected to change the word "convicted" to "refused bail" in the sentence I have quoted.

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): May I make a submission? We brought an adjournment motion on the 7th, saying that Shri Ramalingam, who was one of the candidates, has been arrested and that he is not being allowed to canvass, and you were pleased to say that it is not proper that a candidate should be arrested.

Mr. Speaker: Did I say that even if he commits an offence he should not be arrested?

Shri Tangamani: When he was arrested a new impression was sought to be created on the 10th. The elec-

tion was to take place on the 11th. Our allegation that he has been arrested and bail refused was sought to be controverted by saying that he has been convicted. But the point that was made once or twice by Shrimati Renu Chakravartty was that he has been arrested under the peculiar circumstances and the peculiar procedure then in existence in French India, namely, Pondicherry. There as soon as the Public Prosecutor says when a person is arrested that no bail should be granted no bail is granted.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon Member knows the rule. When a correction is made by any hon. Minister to the answer that has been given, the hon. Member may put one or two questions arising out of this correction. He is now going on making a speech. What is the point?

Shri Tangamani: A point was raised on the 7th.

Mr. Speaker: That is all right. What is it that he wants to ask the hon Minister? Let him frame a question. What is the question?

Shri Tangamani: Was a report received from the Chief Commissioner before this statement was made on the 10th August and, if so, what is the nature of this report?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know. The facts are quite simple. I deeply regret that a small error slipped in in my colleague's statement. It so happened that I made the statement myself in the other House and I could not come here. I asked her, therefore, in case the question was raised here, to make the statement. Maybe, in communicating my message to her some slight misunderstanding about these words arose.

Mr. Speaker: A correct statement was made there?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Yes, Sir. I made the statement. I did not make the mistake. I knew the facts. But in conveying to her that in case this