

Communications (Shri S. K. Patil): Sir, on behalf of Shri Raj Bahadur, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of section 133 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, a copy of each of Notifications Nos. F 12(5)/58 and F.12(41)/56, dated the 7th May, 1959, making certain amendments to the Delhi Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940, published in Delhi Gazette [Placed in Library, See No LT-1550/59]

NOTIFICATION ISSUED UNDER ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): Sir, 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. G.S.R 922, dated the 8th August, 1959. [Placed in Library, See No LT-1551/59]

NOTIFICATIONS ISSUED UNDER ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, a copy of each of the following Notifications.—

- (i) G.S.R No 932, dated the 7th August, 1959, containing the Delhi Wheat and Wheat Products (Export Control) Order, 1959
- (ii) G.S.R No 934, dated the 9th August, 1959, making certain further amendment to the Manipur Foodgrains (Movement) Control Order, 1956 [Placed in Library, See No LT-1552/59]

12.05½ hrs.

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 19th August, 1959, agreed without any amendment to the Employment Exchanges (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Bill, 1959, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 4th 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 Public Wakfs (Extension of Limitation) Bill, 1959, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 7th August 1959"

12.06½ hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): Mr Speaker, Sir, you were pleased to extend the time of discussion on the motion regarding rise in food-grains prices to 5 hours. As you are aware, Sir, this discussion is to start today, and would continue upto 2-30 p.m. when the Private Members' Business would be taken up. In deference to your wishes, the Prime Minister announced yesterday that the additional time would be made available without a big gap. It has accordingly been decided that the discussion on this motion may continue tomorrow after the disposal of the International Monetary Fund and Bank (Amendment) Bill. In order to accommodate this discussion tomorrow, it has been decided to postpone for the time being the discussion of Shri Harish Chandra Mathur's motion regarding third Annual Report of the National Small Industries Corporation (Private) Ltd.

Shri Nagi Reddy (Anantapur) On a point of information, Sir The Business Advisory Committee has recommended, in today's business papers that we have received, certain motions for discussion I would like to know what has happened to the motion for discussion which we had given on the Mathai affair and about which certain papers were laid on the Table of the House Quite a number of us had requested for a discussion on it here

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha. This was not on the agenda of the Business Advisory Committee yesterday, as you are aware

Mr. Speaker This motion relates to the agenda that was disposed of yesterday He wants that the Business Advisory Committee's report may be accepted So far as the other motion is concerned, the motion is still with me I am considering as to what steps ought to be taken in that regard If I admit it, it will come up for discussion

12.00 1/2 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

FORTY-FIRST REPORT

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha) Sir, I beg to move

"That this House agrees with the Forty-first Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 20th August, 1959"

Mr Speaker The question is

"That this House agrees with the Forty-first Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 20th August, 1959"

The motion was adopted

12.00 hrs.

DISCUSSION RE RISE IN FOOD-GRAINS PRICES

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh (Sasaram) Sir, I rise to raise a discussion on the situation arising out of rise in food-grains prices in the country with special reference to West Bengal where levy and price control on rice has been withdrawn

The problem of food at present is very acute and it is exercising everybody's mind It is not so much because of the non-availability of food as the production during the last season was quite adequate as has been disclosed by the Government, which has been due to the efforts of the peasants in the country, but it is because of the high food prices which are not within the reach of the common man Every one of us knows that the price of rice is somewhere near Rs 30 per maund practically in all the big cities in the country Even coarse rice is selling at about Rs 26 to Rs 28 per maund in Delhi. In Bombay, the price is Rs 30 per maund In West Bengal also, the same price prevails Even in paddy producing areas where paddy and rice were procured or purchased by the Government at controlled price—for instance, paddy was procured at Rs 9 per maund and rice at about Rs 16 or in between Rs 16 and 17 per maund—the price of rice at present is somewhere near Rs 25 per maund I am talking only about coarse and medium rice, mostly coarse rice This morning I heard that the price of indigenous wheat is above Rs 30 per maund in Bombay

This indicates that the situation of food in India is not very happy at present despite the fact that we are importing enormous quantities of foodgrains from foreign countries and have purchased also a significant amount of foodgrains this year Why is it so this is the main problem Is it because of the faults of the producer or because of the faults of the consumer or because of our defective