

**MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA**

**Secretary:** Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:—

"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 28th November, 1957, agreed without any amendment to the Naga Hills-Tuensang Area Bill, 1957, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 25th November, 1957."

**BUS ACCIDENT IN HIMACHAL PRADESH**

**The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant):** Sir, on 29th November, 1957 a passenger bus of the State Transport Service of Himachal Pradesh Administration was on a trip from Simla to Kotkhai, a distance of 36 miles. The bus left Simla at 2.45 P.M. with 17 passengers besides the driver and the conductor. On the way, it picked up 5 more passengers. Soon after the bus left Theog, it began to rain and by the time the bus reached village Chhaila at 6.00 P.M. the rain became quite heavy. The bus left Chhaila at 6.30 P.M. and after it had barely proceeded a furlong it began to tilt on one side. It appears that the driver cut across sharply at a hill recess with the result that the near side wheels slipped and the bus tilted over into the precipice and dropped 150 feet into the river Giri. Villagers from the near-about villages rushed to the place and started rescue work. Of the 24 persons in the bus, 5 (including the conductor of the bus) died instantly and 19 were injured. Medical aid was rushed out from Theog and the rescue party removed the injured persons. Of the 5 persons who died the bodies of two of them were wash-

ed away by the river and 3 bodies were recovered. Of the 19 persons 3 had received minor injuries and they left for their homes. Of the remaining 16, 13 were admitted in the Snowdon Hospital, Simla, and 3 in the Theog hospital. Later these 3 persons were also removed to the Snowdon Hospital, Simla. Serious injuries were sustained by 3 persons of whom one succumbed to them and died in the hospital on 22-11-1957. The recovery of others is proceeding satisfactorily.

Himachal Pradesh Administration have appointed a Committee of 3 officers to make an investigation into the causes of the accident. The investigating committee consists of the Superintendent of Police, Mahasu District, Executive Engineer, P. W. D., and the Automobile Engineer of Himachal Transport Service. The Committee are continuing their investigations and will submit their final report and finding after the investigations have been completed.

**BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** Sir, on behalf of the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, with your permission, I rise to announce that Government business in this Sabha during the week commencing Monday, December 2, will be taken up in the following order:—

1. Any item of business carried over from today's agenda.
2. Discussion on the Food Situation on a motion to be moved by the Minister of Food and Agriculture.
3. The Indian Railways (Amendment) Bill.
4. The Capital Issues (Control) Amendment Bill.
5. The Central Excises and Salt (Amendment) Bill.