

of the following Notifications making certain amendments to the Representation of the People (Conduct of Elections and Election Petitions) Rules, 1956:—

- (1) Notification No. S.R.O. 2719, dated the 18th November, 1956.
- (2) Notification No S.R.O. 3068, dated the 14th December, 1956.
- (3) Notification No. S.R.O. 412, dated the 4th February, 1957.

[Placed in Library. See No. S-21/57].

AMENDMENT TO THE REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (PREPARATION OF ELECTORAL ROLLS) RULES.

Shri A. K. Sen: Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of section 28 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, a copy of the Notification No. S.R.O. 140, dated the 10th January, 1957 making certain amendment to the Representation of the People (Preparation of Electoral Rolls) Rules, 1956. [Placed in Library. See No. S-22/57].

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER THE COMPANIES ACT, 1956.

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of section 641 of the Companies Act, 1956, a copy of each of the following Notifications:—

- (1) Notification No. S.R.O. 1281, dated the 23rd April, 1957.
- (2) Notification No. S.R.O. 1435, dated the 7th May, 1957.

[Placed in Library. See No. S-23/57].

COMPANIES (APPEALS TO THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT) RULES

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of section 642 of the Companies Act, 1956, a copy of the Companies (Appeals to the Central Government)

Rules, 1957, published in the Notification No. S.R.O. 1380, dated the 4th May, 1957. [Placed in Library. See No. S-24/57].

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

RISE IN FOOD PRICES

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy (Salem): Sir, 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 thereon:—

"The rise in food prices and steps taken by the Government in regard thereto."

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): Sir, agricultural production is highly susceptible to vagaries of nature, but, nevertheless, it is clear, on a study of the production figures over the last 10 years, that the overall production of cereals as well as the yield per acre are considerably higher at present than at the beginning of that period. In 1947-48, the total production of cereals was 43.7 million tons and the yield per acre was 569 lbs. In 1956-57, the total production of cereals has been 56.2 million tons and the yields per acre 591 lbs. The following statement gives the 5-yearly moving average production from 1951-52:—

Quinquennium ending	Average production of cereals (in Million Tons)	Average yield per acre (in lb.)
1951-52	43.5	519
1952-53	44.6	514
1953-54	47.6	531
1954-55	49.6	544
1955-56	52.1	557
1956-57	54.8*	579*

*Based on provisional advance estimates.

The above figures clearly establish that there has been a steady improve-