Question No. 585

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER FOR SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TOTRES

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): I beg to lay on the Table, under article 338(2) of the Constitution, a copy of the Report (Parts I and II) of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the year 1958-59. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-1842/59.]

AMENDMENTS TO MEDICINAL AND TOILET PREPARATIONS (EXCISE DUTIES) RULES

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Medicinal and Toilet Preparations (Excise Duties) Act, 1955, a copy of Notification No. GSR 1363 dated the 12th December, 1959 making certain further amendments to the Medicinal and Toilet Preparations (Excise Duties) Rules, 1956. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-1843/59.]

RE: CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO STARRED QUESTION No. 585

Harish Chandra Mathur (Paii): You will observe from the correction that a big slip was made by the Deputy Minister. It was stated on the floor of the House that a committee was appointed in May 1959, whereas it is obvious now by the correction that the committee was constituted as early as 1955. Therefore, the complaint of the Auditor-General has a lot of substance, that the highpowered committee has not functioned. May I have a clarification now from the hon. Deputy Minister as to the stage in the working of this committee, when it was appointed early as 1959?

Mr. Speaker: The hon, Minister has just laid a paper on the Table.

Shri Harlsh Chandra Mathur: It is a correction to the reply given to a supplementary question.

Mr. Speaker: He is referring to something else. This is item No. 8. relating to Papers laid on the Table.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: It is just correcting the answer given to my question.

Mr. Speaker: No, that correction of a reply to a question comes later. He is anticipating it.

RE: PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Mr. Speaker: I would like to make an observation regarding the two statements laid on the Table of House by Shri K. C. Reddy today This is not an ordinary report, submitted in the usual course, relating to the administration of any property, or any autonomous corporation. So far as this is concerned, two adjournment motions were tabled here on the explosions in Asansol and Hyderabad. Naturally, the hon. Minister was not in a position to give sufficient details on the horrible explosions that took place. Whenever such information is sought to be given to the House. because at an earlier stage the hon. Minister wanted time to collect information, when he presents a report of this kind, he should make some observation as to what exactly is the cause of the accident. It should be a summary of the report, which gives the details. Whenever matters come up before this House by way of adjournment motions, if the Minister is not in a position to give a reply then and he takes time, whenever they get some more information, instead merely putting it on the Table of the House, I would urge upon them make a statement as to what exactly has happened. When these serious explosions took place people were naturally agitated, and the hon. Minister was not in a position to give the information then.