12.07 hrs.

# PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

#### THIRTIETH REPORT

Shri Barman (Cooch-Behar-Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to present the Thirtieth Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Audit Report on the Accounts of the Damodar Valley Corporation for the year 1957-58.

## 12:071 hrs.

#### DELHI PRIMARY EDUCATION BILL

# REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE

Shrimati Renuka Ray (Malda): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report of the Joint Committee on the Bill to provide for free and compulsory primary education for children in the Union Territory of Delhi, pending in Rajya Sabha.

### 12.073 hrs.

### CALLING ATTENTION TO A MAT-TER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPOR-TANCE

CIRCULATION OF COUNTERFEIT CURRENCY

Shri Narasimhan (Krishnagiri): Under rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Finance to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

"The circulation of counterfeit currency notes in South India and the steps taken in the matter."

The Minister of Finance Shri Morarji Desai): May I submit that the statement runs to about three foolscap pages? Shall I lay it on the Table of the House?

Mr. Speaker: Yes, he may lay it on the Table of the House.

**Shri Morarji Desai:** I lay the statement on the Table of the House. [Appendix I, annexure No. 70].

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): There are press reports to the effect that the police have seized currency notes worth several lakhs of rupees from several sources. There is also a report that counterfeit currency notes have also been received by the police. The newspaper reports alone say that Rs. 10 lakhs worth of currency notes have been received....

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member cannot make a speech now. What is it that he wants.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam): Let the statement be read and them we may ask one or two clarifications.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members wilf look into the statement first.

Shri Tangamani: More particularly, in Madras, what has happened is this.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I am not able to follow what the hon. Member wants.

Shri Tangamani: I want the statement to be read here, because it is an important statement.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Then, we may seek some clarification.

Shri Balakrishnan (Dindigu!-Reserved-Sch. Castes): Many innocent poor people, especially the villagers sold their agricultural products and received in exchange counterfeit currency not knowing that it was counterfeit. So, will Government help such persons by allowing them to exchange their currency notes in the State Bank if their cases are genuine namely that they have received these currency notes in exchange for the commodities that they sold?

Mr. Speaker: I thought that hon. Members were anxious to start the discussion on the employees' strike and so on. If hon. Members want, I

1389