12.36 hrs.

DETENTION AND RELEASE OF A MEMBER

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the House that I have received the following telegram dated the 17th August, 1958, from the Deputy Superintendent of Police. Kalol.—

"Shri Purushottamdas R Patel, Member, Lok Sabha, restrained near Dharamsala Tower Chowk, Kalol, under section 69 of the Bombay Police Act, today at 16-45 hours and was allowed to go under the same section at 18-30 hours today, the 17th August, 1958"

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Basırhat) What does it mean?

Mr. Speaker: He has been released I am not able to follow what exactly she says

Shri Tangamani (Madurai) Released when?

Mr Speaker: I have only read out the message I am not competent to comment Let us wait and see what exactly will happen Hereatter I hope the hon Home Minister will instruct the various persons who have to send messages like this when Members of Parliament are arrested, to give complete information instead of couching it in dubious language like this He could easily have said that he was released on bail of something like that I hope instructions will be issued accordingly

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad) The place of detention has not been mentioned

Mr. Speaker: All details will hereafter be given to us

12:31 hrs.

ESTATE DUTY (AMENDMENT) BILL

REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

Shri C R. Pattabhi Raman (Kumbakonam) Sir, 1 beg to present the Report of the Select Committee on the Estate Duty (Amendment) Bill, 1958 12-31 hrs.

STATEMENT ON NEW FREIGHT STRUCTURE (RAILWAYS)

The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram): Sir, the House will recollect that during the discussions on the Budget in the month of February this year, I had promised to make a statement when the recommendations of the Railway Freight Structure Enquiry Committee had been fully considered

The examination in regard to the freight scales has since been completed, and after due consideration decisions have been taken by the Government

I lay on the Table of the House a statement giving broadly the features of the freight rate structure as it now prevails, the main recommendations in regard to the structure as made by the Freight Structure Enquiry Committee, and the modifications which the Government have deemed necessary in the proposals of the Committee [See Appendix II, annexure No 21]

As will be seen from the statement, the new rates will take effect from the 1st October, 1958. From the same date, there will be revision of the scales of rates for parcels traffic, and both the new goods rates and parcels rates will be expressed in the decimal coinage.

As estimate of additional tevenue on goods traffic from the new scales of rates, at the present level of traffic, of Rs 96 crores per year, has been given in para 17 of the statement. The additional revenue yielded from the revised parcels rates is expected to be about Rs 2 crores per year.

I would like to explain, in this connection, that these additional revenue yields are without making any allowance for the additional responsibility for loss and damage to goods, which the Committee have recommended that the Railways should undertake as common carriers instead of as bailees as at present. The Committee have