

12 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON ASSURANCES

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following statements showing the action taken by the Government on various assurances, promises and undertakings given by the Ministers during the various sessions of Second Lok Sabha:—

(i) Supplementary Statement No. I.—Eleventh Session, 1960. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 116].

(ii) Supplementary Statement No. VI.—Tenth Session, 1960. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 117].

(iii) Supplementary Statement No. IX.—Ninth Session, 1959. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 118].

(iv) Supplementary Statement No. XI.—Eighth Session, 1959. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 119].

(v) Supplementary Statement No. XVIII.—Seventh Session, 1959. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 120].

(vi) Supplementary Statement No. XXXIV.—Second Session, 1959. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 121].

ANNUAL REPORT OF COIR BOARD

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report on the activities of the Coir Board for the year 1959-60, under sub-section (I) of Section 19 of the Coir Industry

Act, 1953. [Placed in Library. See LT-2363/60].

ANNUAL REPORT OF EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE CORPORATION

The Deputy Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri L. N. Mishra): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation for the year 1959-60 along with the Audited Accounts for the year ended 31st March, 1959 and Revised Estimates for the year 1959-60 and Budget Estimates for the year 1960-61, under Section 36 of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation Act, 1948. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2364/60].

Shri Morarka (Jhunjhunu): Sir, on a point of order. The report just now laid relates to the year 1959-60 along with the audited accounts for the year 1958-59 whereas the Act envisages that the report and the accounts should be laid the same year. I raised the same point some time ago. I cannot understand why the accounts could not be laid earlier and why they should be laid on the Table of the House 18 months after the year has ended.

The second point is that the budget estimates for the year 1960-61 are also laid today. Six months of the year are already over. When the budget has to be placed before this House, it must be placed before the year begins so that the House can examine and give any opinion it wants to give. Now, what is the use of this budget being laid on the Table after six months? I request that you may give a direction that in future at least this document may be placed in time.

Shri L. N. Mishra: It is a fact that there has been some delay in presenting the audit report. It is mainly because of the fact that the audit authorities take sometime. We are trying to expedite. It has been decided to decentralise the audit of the corporation to State Accountant Generals and

[Shri L. N. Mishra]

suitable direction is being given. So far as the presentation of the Budget is concerned we place it before the House for the information of the Members of the House. It is passed by the Corporation.

Shri Morarka: Even if it is for the information of the House, it must come in time. The Act says that the budget should be placed before the House. Budget presupposes advance estimates for the year. What is the use of placing this budget estimate when the year is half over? That is my point.

Shri Jaganatha Rao (Koraput): What has happened to the audited accounts of the previous year?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): I may submit that about a couple of years back, when the audited statement of accounts along with the report was placed here, the Chair was pleased to direct us that we should not wait for the auditor's report but that as soon as it was approved by the Corporation Board the report should be placed here and that the auditor's report should come after they submit their report. We are following that direction. The auditors' statement of accounts for the previous year will come as soon as we receive their report.

Mr. Speaker: What is the delay due to?

Shri Abid Ali: The Chair directed that we should place the report here after the auditors' report is received along with the auditor's report. If the direction is that without the auditor's report it may be placed here, we will do so.

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman (Kumbakonam): Section 36 says that the annual report, the audited accounts of the Corporation and the budget as adopted by the Corporation shall be

placed before the Parliament and published in the Gazette. So, that is clear.

Shri Abid Ali: We are prepared to do this. It will take some time. For instance, the report for the year ending 31-3-1960 is placed here. The relevant statement of accounts will have to be audited and after these are audited they will come here. But if the Chair directs that both should come together according to the requirement of the section, that will be followed. If the report is wanted earlier, it will be given.

Mr. Speaker: My object in stating that the report may be placed even independently of the accounts was that there should not be a long delay before the accounts are placed before the House. I did not want that the report also should be delayed. But that does not mean that the one ought to be separated from the other. Every attempt must be made to place on the Table of the House at the earliest possible opportunity both the report and the accounts. If, however, there is some unavoidable delay in placing the accounts on the Table of the House, the report may be submitted earlier. But it does not mean that there should be a gulf between the one and the other.

The other one was pointed out by Shri Pattabhi Raman. Section 36 seems to imply that the budget estimates as approved by the Corporation alone have to be placed here. Therefore, it takes some time for them to pass the budgets. All delays which could possibly be avoided should be avoided. I would urge upon the hon. Minister to place the accounts also, if possible, along with the report.

Shri Abid Ali: This book contains the accounts also.

Shri Morarka: Your ruling was in respect of the Auditor-General's report. This has nothing to do with the Auditor-General's report. This

is a statutory Corporation and here it is a question of the directors and the report of the directors.

Mr. Speaker: I will look into this question.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
ASSURANCES

MINUTES

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Hissar): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the Minutes of the Nineteenth Sitting of the Committee on Government Assurances held during the Eleventh Session.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE
MEMBERS' BILLS AND
RESOLUTIONS

SEVENTIETH REPORT

Sardar Hukam Singh (Bhatinda): Sir, beg to present the Seventieth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

12.09 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER
OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

SHORTAGE OF COAL AND IRON ORE IN
BHILAI AND ROURKELA STEEL PROJECTS

Shri Goray (Poona): Sir, under Rule 197 I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

“The reported shortfall in production in Bhilai and Rourkela Steel Projects on account of shortage of coal and iron ore”.

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): Sir, it

is a two-page statement. Would you like me to read it?

Mr. Speaker: It may be circulated to the hon. Members. He may lay it on the Table.

Shri Goray: Will you allow us to put some questions?

Mr. Speaker: Let the hon. Member read it and let us see, if necessary, tomorrow or the day after.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Ferozabad): When the statement is a long one, they may give a summary. Has he not prepared a summary?

Mr. Speaker: Wherever possible, I would like that summaries may be given. If it is not possible it need not be given. But I leave it to the hon. Minister to decide.

Sardar Swaran Singh: With your permission sir, I lay the statement on the Table. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 122].

Sardar Swaran Singh: I do not think, Sir, that summaries would really convey the gist in such matters.

Mr. Speaker: The best person to decide it is the Minister himself. If he feels that it may not be possible to convey the entire gist by giving a summary, he may place the statement on the Table of the House. I will have it circulated to hon. Members and if hon. Members have anything more to ask I will see later on.

12.11 hrs.

DELHI PRIMARY EDUCATION
BILL—contd.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Dr. K. L. Shrimaji on the 6th September, 1960, namely:—

“That the Bill to provide for free and compulsory primary