

Shri L. N. Mishra: The accident took place on the 5th. Yesterday the House was adjourned and today I am reporting it to the House.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Sir, since both the accidents have taken place due to the collapse of the roof, I suggest that the Central Government may depute some officer of the Labour Ministry to go and see that all these mines in the adjoining areas are inspected so that this thing would not recur.

Mr. Speaker: In view of the statement of the hon. Minister that an Inspector has been sent to make a full enquiry and send a report, I would advise the Minister to place the report on the Table of the House as early as possible so that we may have full information. There is also the 'Calling Attention Notice' of Shri Indrajit Gupta and Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan which refer to the

'Recent successive mine accidents at Simlabahal and Badruchuk collieries in Jharia coalfields, Bihar, resulting in loss of four and five lives respectively and in dislocation of production.'

Therefore, there seems to be not only one incident. I would like to have a full and frank discussion on this matter as soon as the report is ready and is placed on the Table of the House. Let all these matters be taken into consideration.

In the meanwhile if hon. Members want other matters to be looked into let them send information to the hon. Minister who will send them to the Inspector and then carry out the suggestions.

In view of what has been said I do not think it is necessary for me to give my consent.

Shri Mahanty (Dhenkanal): May I make a submission, Sir? I am afraid, Sir, that an enquiry conducted under the auspices of the Chief Inspector of Mines would suffer from an infirmity inasmuch as it has been suggested

indirectly in this House that his responsibility is attracted in this particular matter. Therefore, in the interests of a fair enquiry it should be conducted by a panel of eminent technicians in the Ministry of Mines.

Shri L. N. Mishra: The Chief Inspector of Mines is taken as a technical expert. On receiving the report we shall decide whether such an enquiry is necessary or not. First we have to receive the report and decide whether it is necessary or not. (*Interruption*).

Shri A. C. Guha (Barasat): May I make a submission?.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. A suggestion has been made that when this Inspector has been in default it is not likely that he would expose himself. Let us have his report first and see whether others have taken proper care. If it is further necessary that there ought to be another report then we will think about it.

Shri A. C. Guha: In the meantime, till the report comes, may I request the Government to see that the roofs of those two mines are properly protected and proper precautions taken so that there may not be any such accidents hereafter in these two mines?

12.18 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME
MINISTER REGARDING THE
DEATH OF PANDIT G. B. PANT

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): Sir, with your permission, I would like to read out a message to this hon. House from the Prime Minister on the passing away of Pantji.

"What we have been expecting fearfully, during the last two weeks, has come to pass, and the last glimmer of hope that Pantji might recover has been snuffed out, and we are left desolate and

forlorn. Dear friend and comrade, great captain of our people during the days of our struggle for freedom, great in leadership after freedom came, wisest of counsellors, gentle and yet firm of purpose with malice to none, child of our beloved Himalayan mountains carrying with him something of their calm and imperturbability, rock of stability and lighthouse to guide people's minds and paths, how shall we replace him or find his like again? He shone in Parliament but even more he shone in life itself, and loved with passion our motherland and the well-being of all her children. We pay our homage to him and give our pledge to devote ourselves to the cause to which he gave his brilliant mind and all his strength and energy, in spite of physical ailments and disabilities. To the last moment of his days, so long as consciousness lasted, he gave his unremitting labour to the service of India. Even so may it be given to us to labour with joyful heart in this dear service till the last breath of life."

12.20½ hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE
POST OFFICE SAVINGS CERTIFICATES
(SECOND AMENDMENT) RULES

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): Sir, on behalf of Shri Morarji Desai, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Post Office Savings Certificates (Second Amendment) Rules, 1960, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 86, dated the 21st January, 1961, under sub-section (3) of Section 12 of the Government Savings Certificates Act, 1959. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-2707/61].

ANNUAL REPORT OF BHARAT ELECTRONICS LIMITED

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramiah): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual

Report of the Bharat Electronics Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1959-60 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon, under sub-section (1) of Section 639 of the Companies Act, 1956. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-2708/61].

12.22 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

SEVENTY-EIGHTH REPORT

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

12.22½ hrs.

STATEMENT RE: ATTACKS ON MINORITIES IN EAST PAKISTAN

Mr. Speaker: Shrimati Renuka Ray to call attention to recent attacks on minorities in East Pakistan. She is absent. The statement may be laid on the Table of the House; it need not be read.

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): Sir, I beg to lay the Statement on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

According to information received by us, attacks were made on the minority community (Hindus) in Daulatpur and Khalispur industrial suburbs of Khulna on 26th February morning. Some Hindu houses were also set on fire. According to the statements made on behalf of the East Pakistan authorities, 5 persons were killed. The local authorities took prompt steps to meet the situation and to prevent the spread of further trouble and promulgated Section 144. About 100 Hindu railway passengers were sheltered in the