1108

PETITION re. PUBLICATION OF RAILWAY TIME TABLES

श्री प्रजून सिंह भवौरिया (इटावा): श्रध्यक्ष महोदय , में रेलवे बोर्ड द्वारा रेलवे समय-सारणी के प्रकाशन के सम्बन्ध में एक याचिकाकार द्वारा हस्ताक्षर रित् एक याचिका पेश करता हं।

12 08 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

CLOSURE OF HINDUSTHAN STANDARD, DELHI

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Under rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Labour and Employment to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

"The reported closure of *The Hindusthan Standard* (Delhi) resulting in the unemployment of about 350 workers."

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): The building and the press where The Hindusthan Standard is printed is changing hands resulting in the closure of the said newspaper with effect from 20th February, 1961. Moreover, the circulation of the newspaper has decreased by about 50 per cent, and the management are unable to run it as a profitable concern.

An agreement has since been reached between the management and workers' union with regard to the closure and payment of compensation etc. to the workers amounting to about Rs. 4.50 lakhs. The union has also agreed not to raise any further dispute about the closure and all their pending claims were to be considered as settled by the ex-gratia payment which the

management has agreed to make.

The said settlement has been signed in the presence of the President of the Delhi Working Journalists' Union. Accordingly, nothing further remains to be done in the matter.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: This closure of the Hindusthan Standard in due to the inability to repay a loan of Rs. 19 lakhs which the Anand Bazar Patrika had taken from the LIC. The building is being sold by the Anand Bazar Patrika.....

Mr. Speaker: They have all agreed.
What is the difficulty?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Is it not the responsibility of Government to inquire into the mishandling of this affair?

Mr. Speaker: Then Government themselves must run the paper.

12.11 hrs.

U.P. SUGARCANE CESS (VALIDA-TION) BILL*

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi): On behalf of Shri Morarji Desai, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to validate the imposition and collection of cesses on sugarcane under certain Acts of Uttar Pradesh.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to validate the imposition and collection of cesses on sugarcane under certain Acts of Uttar Pradesh".

The motion was adopted.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: I introduce† the Bill.

^{*}Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary Part II—Section 2, dated 21-2-1961.

[†]Introduced with the recommendation of the President.