

**MINUTES OF PARLIAMENTARY
COMMITTEES**

**COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS'
BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS**

Sardar Hukam Singh (Bhatinda): I beg to lay on the Table the Minutes of the sittings (Fifty-sixth to Sixty-fifth) of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions held during the Tenth Session.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Shri Dasappa (Bangalore): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Minutes of the sittings of the Estimates Committee:—

- (i) Minutes relating to the Seventy-seventh and Seventy-ninth Reports on the Ministry of Commerce and Industry—Small scale industries.
- (ii) Minutes relating to the Eighty-sixth Report on the Ministry of Commerce and Industry—the State Trading Corporation of India Ltd.
- (iii) Minutes relating to the Eighty-fourth, Eighty-eighth and Ninetieth Reports on the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

**NINETY-SECOND AND NINETY-FIFTH
REPORTS**

Shri Dasappa (Bangalore): I beg to present the following Reports of the Estimates Committee:—

- (i) Ninety-second Report on the Growth of Civil Non-Plan Expenditure.
- (ii) Ninety-fifth Report on the Ministry of Finance—the Rehabilitation Finance Administration (Reports and Accounts).

12.18 hrs.

**CALLING ATTENTION TO A
MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC
IMPORTANCE**

**REPORTED DANGER TO WATER TRANSPORT
ON RIVER BRAHMAPUTRA**

Shri P. C. Borooah (Sibsagar): Under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Transport and Communications to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

"The reported danger facing inland water transport on the river Brahmaputra".

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): As the statement I propose to make is a long one, I shall read out a summary and then place the statement on the Table of the House.

Till 1950 river Brahmaputra was navigable between Dhubri and Dibrugarh (460 Miles). The earthquake, however, disturbed the river bed levels and shoals have formed at various places. The stretch between Dibrugarh and Desangmukh (46 miles) became unnavigable by deep draughted vessels owing to the heaving up of the river bed.

During the dry season extensive conservancy measures are carried out at Noonkhowa Shoal, Kholabanda and Bangnati. The Joint Steamer Companies carry out the conservancy and they are compensated by the Government as explained in the statement.

I have recently undertaken a river trip from Dhubri to Gauhati and gained a first-hand idea about conservancy and have also discussed this matter at length with Assam Ministers.

Assam Government are contemplating necessary river training works and afforestation in the catchment.