

pieces as far as possible. This paper gives some effects of the poison on the body between 6.00 and 6-25 P.M. The Police had picked up these torn pieces from Shri Gambheer's waste paper basket in the laboratory and they were put on the table. The matter is under investigation and no report from the Police has been received so far.

NON-REINSTATEMENT OF SOME DISMISSED EMPLOYEES AND DELAY IN RESTORATION OF RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEES' UNIONS AND FEDERATIONS.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: Under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

The non-reinstatement of over 300 dismissed employees and delay in restoring recognition of the employees' Federations and Unions that participated in July 1960 strike.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: I lay a Statement on the Table.

Statement

According to the latest information available, orders of dismissal and removal passed against 170 employees and orders of discharge passed against 102 employees are now in force. Considering that departmental proceedings were initially instituted against about 46,000 employees, and 2,079 were dismissed or removed, and 2,137 discharged, the number against whom orders of dismissal, removal and discharge now stand is small. This shows that action has finally been taken very sparingly. The employees who took part in the strike were not only guilty of indiscipline but also of offences punishable under the law. It would in the circumstances be against the public interest to condone their conduct whole-sale. It is, however, open to the individuals affected to submit an appeal or memorial to the

appropriate authority, which will consider each case on merits.

2. The question of restoration of recognition to unions and associations whose recognition was withdrawn following the strike is under the consideration of Government, and their decision will be announced shortly.

FLOODS IN ORISSA

Shri Chintamani Panigrahi (Puri): Under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Irrigation and Power to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

The situation arising out of the heavy floods in Orissa this week.

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Hafiz Mohammed Ibrahim): I lay the Statement on the Table.

Statement

The calling attention notice regarding the situation arising out of the floods in Orissa during this week was received in my Ministry at 8-30 P.M. last evening. Immediately my officers endeavoured to establish contact with the State Government officials on the telephone but were unable to obtain any useful information. At our instance, a special officer of the Orissa Government has been designated to supply information to us from time to time regarding the flood situation in the State. No information has so far been received by my Ministry from this officer.

The latest information with my Ministry relates to the 2nd of September when it was reported to us through a bulletin issued by the Orissa Government that the flood levels in the Baitarni and the Brahmini rivers were below danger points.

For the first time we came to know on the morning of the 7th September from papers and from the news