

12.15 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:—

- (1) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 97 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Hindi Sahitya Sammelan Bill, 1962, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 19th March, 1962."
- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 20th March, 1962, agreed without any amendment to the Goa, Daman and Diu (Administration) Bill, 1962, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 14th March, 1962."
- (iii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 20th March, 1962, passed, in accordance with the provisions of article 368 of the Constitution of India, without any amendment, the Constitution (Twelfth Amendment) Bill, 1962, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 14th March, 1962".

12.16 hrs.

BILL PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA
LAID ON THE TABLE

Secretary: Sir, I lay on the Table of the House, the Hindi Sahitya Sammelan Bill, 1962, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

12.16½ hrs.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

HUNDRED AND FIFTY-SIXTH REPORT

Shri S.C. Samanta (Tamluk): I beg to present the Hundred and fifty-sixth Report of the Estimates Committee on the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel-National Mineral Development Corporation Limited (Reports and Accounts).

12.17 hrs.

APOLOGY BY SHRI A.
RAGHAVAN, CORRESPONDENT OF THE
BLITZ

Mr. Speaker: The House will recall that I had informed the House on the 21st August, 1961, that I had cancelled the Lok Sabha Press Gallery Card and the Central Hall Pass issued to Shri A. Raghavan, the New Delhi Correspondent of the *Blitz* in pursuance of the decision of the House on the 19th August, 1961, adopting the Thirteenth Report of the Committee of Privileges on the *Blitz* case. The Committee had recommended that:

"the Lok Sabha Press Gallery Card and the Central Hall Pass issued to him be cancelled and be not issued again till he tenders to the House a full and adequate apology."

I have now received the following letter of apology, dated the 16th March, 1962, from Shri A. Raghavan:

"On the 19th August 1961, Lok Sabha adopted a motion agreeing with the 13th Report of the Committee of Privileges presented to the House on the 11th August.

The hon. Speaker and the House will be pleased to remember that the 13th Report of the committee of Privileges had re-

[Mr. Speaker]

commended certain action against the Editor of *Blitz* Newsmagazine, Bombay, and myself, its New Delhi correspondent in connection with a despatch published in the issue of the said weekly dated 15th April, 1961 relating to a speech delivered in the House by Shri J. B. Kripalani on defence matters.

By the said motion Lok Sabha had adjudged me guilty of a gross breach of privilege and contempt of the House. Thereafter in compliance with the directive of the Hon. Speaker, I surrendered my Lok Sabha Press Gallery pass and the Central Hall entry permit.

I take this opportunity to inform the House that I am extremely sorry that I have committed a breach of privilege for which I hereby tender my apology.

May I in conclusion venture to request Lok Sabha through you, Sir, to take a lenient view and restore my Press Gallery pass and the Central Hall entry permit."

Is it the pleasure of the House that the apology may be accepted and the Press Gallery Card and Central Hall Pass may now be restored to Shri Raghavan?

Hon. Members: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: The apology is accepted and the passes will be issued accordingly.

12.18½ hrs.

RESIGNATION OF MEMBERS

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the House that the following Members have resigned their seats in Lok Sabha:

- (1) Dr. D N. Pathrikar Kamble with effect from the 17th March, 1962.

- (2) Shri Raja Ram Misra with effect from the 20th March, 1962 afternoon.

12.19 hrs.

GENERAL BUDGET—GENERAL DISCUSSION—contd.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now proceed with the general discussion of the General Budget. Shri Inder J. Malhotra, who was in possession of the House, may continue.

Shri Inder J. Malhotra (Jammu and Kashmir): While speaking last time I was referring to certain points raised by Shri Madhok regarding the general elections in Jammu and Kashmir State. Now I have only to say that the allegations brought forward by my hon. friend, Shri Madhok, are absolutely baseless and false. As far as his charge regarding the procedure of conducting the elections is concerned, I have only to say that the persons who were conducting the elections in Jammu and Kashmir State were persons of integrity and honesty. Government employees like Deputy Commissioners, Collectors, assistants and clerks who assisted in election work cannot be said to be people who lack integrity.

12.21 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

Here I would like to congratulate the Indian Election Commission and the persons who assisted in conducting these elections, because they worked in such a manner that the elections all over India, more especially in the Jammu and Kashmir State, were most fair.

Shri Madhok also referred to the construction of the old Moghul Road which would connect Jammu via Rajouri, Kashmir Valley and Srinagar. Shri Madhok remarked