

12.09 hrs.

(Interruptions)

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

79th Report and Minutes and 68th Report

SHRI BANSI LAL (Bhiwani) : I beg to present the following Reports and Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the Estimates Committee :

- (i) Seventy-ninth Report on the Ministry of Railways-Railway Purchases and Minutes of the sittings of the Committee relating thereto.
- (ii) Sixty-eighth Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Fifty-first Report of the Committee on the Ministry of Energy-Department of Petroleum.

12.10 hrs.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Hajipur) : If the Defence Minister is not available, let the Prime Minister.....

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : With your permission, Sir I want to make a statement. The Hon. Members will recall.....

(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY (Calcutta South) : I think you agree with us that it is important from the point of view of the security of the country.

MR. SPEAKER : I have given it importance.

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY : That you agree with. In that case, are we not entitled to know from the Defence Minister or, in his absence, from the Prime Minister whether it is a fact or not ?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Jadarpur) : When the House is in session, how can he do like that ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The House is not meeting tomorrow.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV (Azamgarh) : This is not the way to do things.

(Interruptions)

12.11 hrs.

REVISED FIGURES OF FOODGRAINS PRODUCTION

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : Hon. Members will recall that in reply to the Debate on Demands for Grants of my Ministry on the 3rd of this month, I had indicated that we expect a record foodgrains production of 146.3 million tonnes during 1983-84. Since then we have received some confirmed estimates from the States as a result of which I am happy to announce that as per the latest estimates the foodgrains production during 1983-84 is likely to be 149.76 million tonnes. This includes a record Kharif crop of 87.81 million tonnes. Rice production of 59.33 million tonnes, production of coarse cereals of 33.06 million tonnes and wheat production of 44.56 million tonnes as estimated will be an all time record. The estimates have been cautiously prepared on the basis of reports received from the States so far.