

12.06 hrs.

**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

**OIL INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
(EMPLOYEES' CONTRIBUTORY PROVIDENT  
FUND) RULES 1978**

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Oil Industry Development Board (Employees' Contributory Provident Fund) Rules, 1978 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 512(E) in Gazette of India dated the 28th October, 1978 under sub-section (3) of section 31 of the Oil Industry (Development) Act, 1974. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2876/78].

**INTIMATION RE: RELEASE OF  
SHRI VISHVESHVAR RAO RAJE**

MR. SPEAKER: I have to inform the House that I have received the following wireless message dated the 27th November, 1978, from the Police Inspector, Police Station Lakadganj, Nagpur:—

"Regarding the arrest of Shri Vishveshvar Rao Raja, MP. He is released today, i.e., 27-11-78 at 16.15 hours."

SHRI M. SATYANARAYAN RAO (Karimnagar): What about Mr. Sathe?

MR. SPEAKER: I have not got any message. If it is so, I will take action. Call attention.

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

**REPORTED CYCLONIC STORM IN GUJARAT,  
TAMIL NADU AND OTHER PARTS OF THE  
COUNTRY**

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK (Sonepat): Sir, I call the attention of the hon. Minister of Agriculture  
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and Irrigation to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

"Reported cyclonic storm in Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and other parts of the country resulting in heavy loss of life and property."

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): At 8.30 A.M. on the 23rd November, 1978, a cyclonic storm was reported to be at a distance of 150 to 200 kms. East of Trincomalee on the Western coast of Sri Lanka. The storm was proceeding towards Sri Lanka and it was apprehended that it might cross over to the Southern coast of Tamil Nadu also. On the afternoon of the 23rd November, 1978, the India Meteorological Department issued a warning that a storm surge was likely to build up upto 5 metres by mid-day or afternoon, on the 24th November, 1978 over the South Tamil Nadu coast. A telex message was immediately sent by the Additional Secretary in the Department of Agriculture to the Chief Secretary and Revenue Secretary, Tamil Nadu requesting that all possible measures to save life and property should be taken. The Revenue Secretary, Tamil Nadu was also contacted on the phone at 8.30 P.M. on 23-11-1978 and was warned by the Additional Secretary about the storm and the warning of the India Meteorological Department was communicated to him. He indicated that the State Government was seized of the cyclonic storm and has been taking all possible measures for the safety of life and property in the coastal areas.

According to the information received from the State Government on the phone, the cyclone which struck Sri Lanka crossed the Gulf of Manaar and struck the Tamil Nadu coast between Tuticorin and Pamban on the 24th November at 6 P.M. Pamban bridge and road are intact but the jetty put