

Re. QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE

MISREPORTING OF CERTAIN LOK SABHA PROCEEDINGS IN THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Mallikarjun in a notice of question of privilege, dated the 17th April 1979, had alleged that the *Hindustan Times* in its issue dated the 17th April 1979, had misreported the proceedings of Lok Sabha, dated the 16th April, 1979, relating to Calling Attention on the question of lock-out in the *National Herald* concerns. Shri Mallikarjun had stated that in a news item under the caption "Herald will be taken over, if needed", the *Hindustan Times* had reported that "Union Labour Minister Ravindra Varma assured the Lok Sabha today that the Government would consider various steps including take over of the management of the *National Herald* group of newspapers if it was found necessary during or after the present comprehensive enquiry into its affairs". Shri Mallikarjun had contended that a reading of the relevant proceedings of Lok Sabha showed that "the Labour Minister made no such statement and gave no such impression".

The Editor and the Publisher of the *Hindustan Times*, who were asked under my direction to state what they might have to say in the matter, in their replies have deeply regretted the inaccuracy in the issue of the *Hindustan Times* dated the 17th April, 1979.

The regret expressed by the Editor and Publisher of the *Hindustan Times* may be accepted and the matter may be treated as closed.

12.02 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

ANNUAL REPORT AND REVIEW OF TOBACCO BOARD, GUNTUR FOR 1977-78 AND A STATEMENT FOR DELAY

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERA-

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tobacco Board, Guntur, for the year 1977-78 along with the Accounts and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (3) of section 22 read with sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Tobacco Board Act, 1975.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Tobacco Board, Guntur, for the year 1977-78.

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the above papers.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4396/79].

ANNUAL REPORTS AND REVIEWS OF RUBBER BOARD, KOTTAYAM WITH AUDIT REPORT OF ACCOUNT, CARDAMOM BOARD, COCHIN AND COFFEE BOARD FOR 1977-78 AND REVIEW AND ANNUAL REPORT OF TEA TRADING CORPORATION OF INDIA LTD, CALCUTTA FOR 1977-78 WITH STATEMENT FOR DELAY AND NOTIFICATION UNDER RUBBER ACT, 1947

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) on the working of Rubber Board, Kottayam, for the year 1977-78.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Rubber Board, Kottayam, for the year 1977-78.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4397/79].

(2) A copy of the Audit Report (Hindi and English versions) on the Accounts of the Rubber Board, Kottayam, for the year 1977-78