

[Shri Sheo Narain]

Gazette of India dated the 8th July, 1978 under sub-section (3) of section 21 of the Railway Protection Force Act, 1957. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2445/78].

ANNUAL REPORT OF FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA FOR 1976-77 AND A STATEMENT FOR DELAY

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Food Corporation of India for the year 1976-77 along with the Audited Accounts under sub-section (2) of section 35 of the Food Corporations Act, 1964.

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

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2446/78].

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Chirayinkil): Sir, with regard to Item No. 4....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shall I hear one of you or do you want me to hear both?

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: In regard to Item 4 (ii) the Hon. Minister Shri Barnala just now moved a Bill or introduced a Bill on poultry development....

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: It is not a Bill: it is a paper laid on the Table.

MR. SPEAKER: It is a statement laid on the Table.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: I am sorry. This Item No. 4(2) relates to the ICAR. The ICAR Report is for 1974-75. (Interruptions). The ICAR Report is for 1974-75 and this is 1978; and yet the Minister is still to come before the House with the previous two to three

year's reports. So the House did not have an opportunity so far to discuss....

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: You have not read the reasons for the delay....

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: But this House must have the right to know what is happening in the ICAR in the last few years. One day you come up with a Report for 1975 and give reasons, but what has happened to the reports of 1976 and what has happened to the report of 1977?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: Probably the hon. Member does not know. This has been given and the reasons mentioned are as below:

"The audited certificate from the Accountant General, (Commerce, Misc.), New Delhi for the year 1974-75 which forms an integral part of the ICAR Report was not available and hence, as decided by the Governing Body of the Council, Part II of the Report (Technical) for 1974-75 was placed before Parliament during its 1976 Budget session. Audited certificate for 1974-75 was received only in the month of December. Thereafter these audited certificates were approved at the Annual General Meeting of the Council and the compilation, editing, translation and printing of the Report, Part II, by the Accounts Administration took time."

The printed copies of the annual reports were ready by the end of April, 1978 and have been placed on the Table of the House.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY (Barrackpore): For a discussion on the affairs of ICAR, I would like to say that the report has come three years late and the reasons are not sufficient. As we know, there has been a lot of controversy regarding the resignation of Dr. Swaminathan and there have been a number of complaints by ICAR scientists against the Central Potato Research

Institute Director etc. This has been raised time and again in the House, and the Minister has not come forward with any statement clarifying the position regarding ICAR. Since he is laying these papers concerning ICAR on the Table of the House, I take this opportunity to apprise the House of these things and request the Minister to come forward with a statement on the affairs of ICAR.

MR. SPEAKER: That does not arise.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA (Delhi Sadar): Sir, my submission is under Rule 305B. There is a Committee for this purpose, the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table. You have issued instructions to the Ministry many times that the papers should be laid on the Table of the House in time and if there is any delay, reasons should be given. However, in many cases the papers are not being laid on the Table in time; perhaps in 90 per cent of the cases, it is so. The reason which my hon. friend has given just now for the delay is no reason at all. The reason is that as the audit report came late, therefore, there is delay in laying this on the Table. The Government should see to it that the audit report comes in time.

Besides, the recommendations of this Committee have been circulated to all the Ministries and these are that along with the audit report, the reasons for delay, the annual report and the review by the Ministry should also come before the House. These are the recommendations made by this Committee last year. In this case, Shri Barnala has given the annual report as also the review, but otherwise, nowhere the annual report and review of the department are given; the reasons for the delay are either not given, or they are no reasons at all. May I therefore, request you to kindly ask the Ministers and the Government that the recommendations of this Committee should be strictly followed. We have a lot of cases of the delay and it is impossible for this Committee to go through all

these things. May I request you to direct the Government to do it in future?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: Part I of the report was submitted in 1976 and it is only because of the auditing of the accounts etc. that Part II was not ready and did not reach us. The moment it reached us, we got it printed and have submitted.

MR. SPEAKER: Have the audit expedited, otherwise that loses its importance.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: That is right, Sir.

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER CENTRAL EXCISE RULES, 1944, CUSTOMS ACT, 1962 AND FINANCE (No. 2) ACT, 1971 AND COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT FOR 1977—UNION GOVT. (COMMERCIAL) PART II

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQUARULLAH): I beg to lay on the Table:

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi) and English versions issued under the Central Excise Rules, 1944:—

(i) GSR 634 published in Gazette of India dated 20th May, 1978 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption from excise duty of samples of pasteurised butter and processed cheese drawn for laboratory test.

(ii) G.S.R. 671 published in Gazette of India dated the 27th May, 1978 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption from excise duty on solution of asphalt, bitumen, tar or pitch used for road surfacing, filling cracks, bonding aggregates, stabilising soil or for use as adhesives subject to certain conditions.

(iii) G.S.R. 305(E) to 307(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th May, 1978, together with