

13.08 hrs.

GUJARAT PANCHAYATS (AMDT.) ACT,
1974

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER CENTRAL EXCISE
RULE, 1944 AND STATEMENT RE. CORREC-
TION OF ANSWER ETC.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
K. R. GANESH): 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) G.S.R. 321 published in
Gazette of India dated the
30th March, 1974, together
with an explanatory memo-
randum,

(ii) G.S.R. 322 published in
Gazette of India dated the
30th March, 1974, together
with an explanatory memo-
randum,

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6709/
74.]

(2) (i) Statement (Hindi and English
versions) correcting the in-
formation given in respect of
Unstarred Question No. 2765
dated the 18th August, 1972
by Shri G. C. Dixit regarding
arrears of Income tax against
top individuals in Madhya
Pradesh in statement No. VII
showing action taken by Gov-
ernment on assurances, pro-
mises and undertakings given
by Ministers during the Fifth
Session of Fifth Lok Sabha,
laid on the Table of the
House on 27th July, 1973.

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

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6710/
74.]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(SHRI B. P. MAURYA): I beg to
lay on the Table a copy of the Gujarat
Panchayats (Amendment) Act, 1974
(President's Act No. 8 of 1974) (Hindi
and English versions) published in
Gazette of India dated the 31st
March, 1974, under sub-section (3)
of section 3 of the Gujarat State
Legislature (Delegation of Powers)
Act, 1974. [Placed in Library. See
No. LT-6711/74.]

13.08 1/2 hrs.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

REPORTS AND MINUTES

SHRI R. K. SINHA (Faizabad): I
beg to present the following Reports
and Minutes of the Estimates Com-
mittee:—

(1) (i) Fiftieth Report on the
Ministry of Industrial
Development — Industrial
Licensing.

(ii) Minutes of the sittings of the
Committee relating to the
above Report.

(2) (i) Fifty-second Report on
the Ministry of Education and
Social Welfare—Archeolo-
gical Survey of India.

(ii) Minutes of the sittings of the
Committee relating to the
above Reports.

13.09 hrs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIRST REPORT

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Dia-
mond Harbour): I beg to present

[Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu]

the Hundred and twenty-first Report of the Public Accounts Committee on paragraphs contained in the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1971-72, Union Government Defence Services) relating to Defence Production.

13.09 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. DEATH OF SEVERAL PATIENTS IN KANPUR HOSPITAL DUE TO SPURIOUS GLU- COSE INJECTIONS

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (DR. KARAN SINGH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the death of twenty-one persons in Kanpur hospitals as a result of administration of glucose saline injection is most shocking. 13 persons died due to the administration of glucose injection while the remaining 8, who were also given glucose injection, suffered from other severe complications. Enquires made from the Government of U.P. indicate that a specific batch of 5 per cent glucose solution manufactured by Messrs B. J. Pharma, Kanpur, is suspected to have caused the death of the patients. On receipt of information about the deaths, the State Government deputed their Joint Director of Medical Services and the State Drugs Controller to Kanpur for making an on-the-spot investigation. Officers of the Central Drug Control Organisation have also rushed to Kanpur. A three-man Committee of doctors enquired into the cause of deaths and is understood to have submitted its report to the U.P. Government.

The U. P. Government has taken immediate action to arrest two partners of the firm. The Drug Controller of U.P., Senior Drug Inspector of the region and Drug Inspector, Kanpur have been suspended. Three more persons of the firm who are absconding are being searched by Police. Superintendent of hospital has been

ordered to proceed on leave. The State Government have also ordered the stocks of incriminating drug to be seized from the premises of the firm. Samples of glucose solution and glucose substance involved are being rushed for test to the Central Drugs Laboratory, Calcutta. The stocks of the incriminating drug have been ordered to be withdrawn from the hospitals and the market. Other States have also been alerted.

The Central and State Government take a very serious view of the matter. Drug adulteration is a criminal activity and the culprits in this case must in our view be brought to book immediately and deterrent punishment administered to them. The question of spurious drugs was discussed in detail at the recent meeting of the Central Council of Health which was attended by representatives from the States and Union Territories. It was decided that concerted and co-ordinated efforts must be made to fight the menace of drug adulteration on a national scale.

SOME HON. MEMBERS *rose—*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The matter has been raised under Rule 377 and the Minister has made a statement in reply thereto. But, I will make it a special case.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): Sir, you must have read in today's newspapers that the Health Minister of U.P., Shri Saligram Jaiswal, wanted to resign on this issue. He himself is in hospital now.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I suppose he has not been given glucose.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I would request you, Sir, not to treat this matter very lightly. People have died and they are enjoying at their cost.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am not. Do not take it that way.