

MR. SPEAKER : You are speaking without my permission. Nothing will go on record.

Paper to be laid

Mr Balgovind Verma

12.21 hrs

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

COAL MINES (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 1972

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Coal Mines (Amendment) Regulations, 1972 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G. S. R. 359 in Gazette of India dated the 25th March, 1972, under sub-section (7) of section 59 of the Mines Act, 1952 [Placed in Library See No LT-1866/72]

12.21½ hrs

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

THIRTEENTH AND EIGHTEENTH TO TWENTIETH REPORTS AND MINUTES

SHRIM B RANA (Broach) I beg to present the following Reports and Minutes of the Committee on Public Undertakings :—

1 (i) Eighteenth Report on Heavy Engineering Corporation Limited.

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

2. (i) Nineteenth Report on Heavy Electricals (India) Limited.

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

3 (i) Twentieth Report on Shipping Corporation of India Limited;

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

4 Thirteenth Report on action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Fourteenth Report (Fourth Lok Sabha) on Heavy Engineering Corporation Limited

12 22 hrs

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

SEVENTEENTH REPORT AND MINUTES

SHRI K. N. TIWARY (Bettiah) I beg to present the following Report and Minutes of the Estimates Committee :—

1. Seventeenth Report on the Ministry of Industrial Development-Directorate General of Technical Development.

2. Minutes of the sittings of the Committee relating to the above Report.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

THIRTY-NINTH AND FORTY-FOURTH REPORTS

SHRI SEZHIVAN (Kumbakonam) : I beg to present the following Reports of the Public Accounts Committee :—

1. Thirty-ninth Report regarding paragraph 75 of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1969-70, Central Government (Civil) relating to All India Radio.
2. Forty-fourth Report regarding Chapter III of Audit Report (Civil), 1970 and Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1969-70 on Revenue Receipts relating to Union Excise.

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

FIFTH REPORT

SHRI S. C. SAMANTA (Tamluk) : I beg to present the Fifth Report of the Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House.

12:23 hrs.

STATEMENT *RE*. CEILING ON AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE
(SHRI F. A. AHMED) : I beg to lay on the Table a statement on Ceiling on Agricultural Holdings.

STATEMENT

I have seen reports in a section of the press saying that the Ministry of Agriculture had distorted the recommendations of the Central Land Reforms Committee. In view of the importance of the matter I wish to make a statement clarifying the position.

In the statement made in this House on 4.8.1971 about the recommendations of the Central Land Reforms Committee I said that "the ceiling for a family of five members may be fixed within the range of 10 to 18 acres of perennially irrigated land or irrigated land capable of growing two crops." A similar statement was made in the Rajya Sabha by my junior colleague Shri A. P. Shinde on the same day. As will appear from the proceedings of the Rajya Sabha of August 4, 1971 while clarifying the position about irrigated land Shri Shinde made it clear that in referring to irrigated lands the understanding of the Land Reforms Committee was that perennially irrigated lands or lands which got water for two seasons from government sources should be taken into account. This position was subsequently made clear in the Lok Sabha on 15.11.1971 in answer to Starred Question No. 14. In the statement laid on the Table of the House in answer to that question it was mentioned that "the ceiling for a family of five members may be fixed within the range of 10 to 18 acres of perennially irrigated land or land with assured irrigation from government source for growing two crops." The Government's stand has been reiterated in subsequent statements including the one made in the House on the 17th of this month.

A reference to clause (d) of S. 14-K of the West Bengal Land Reforms (Amendment) Act which was enacted on 8.2.1971 during President's Rule in that State will make it abundantly clear that when laying down certain ceiling limits for irrigated land the Government of India had in mind land irrigated from Government sources. In the West Bengal Law irrigated land has been defined as land irrigated from "any State Canal Project or State (power driven deep tube-well) irrigation Project." The West Bengal Act was amended after very careful consideration and after consulting the Parliamentary Consultative Committee.

I may add that similar provisions exist in several State Ceiling Laws enacted years