

[Shri A. C. George]

Amendment Rules, 1971 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S00.5260 in Gazette of India dated the 1st December, 1971, under sub-section (3) of section 17 of the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1296/71]

BY GOVERNMENT ON VARIOUS ASSURANCES, PROMISES ETC.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : I beg to lay on the Table the following statements showing the action taken by the Government on various assurances, promises and undertakings given by the Ministers during the various sessions of Lok Sabha :—

STATEMENTS SHOWING ACTION TAKEN

FOURTH LOK SABHA.

- (1) Statement No. XVIII
- (2) Statement No. XXXVI
- (3) Statement No. XXII
- (4) Statement No. XXVIII
- (5) Statement No. XVIII
- (6) Statement No. XVI
- (7) Statement No. XVIII
- (8) Statement No. IX
- (9) Statement No. VIII

First Session, 1967.
Fourth Session, 1968.
Sixth Session, 1968.
Seventh Session, 1969.
Eighth Session, 1969.
Ninth Session, 1969.
Tenth Session, 1970.
Eleventh Session, 1970.
Twelfth Session, 1970.

FIFTH LOK SABHA.

- (10) Statement No. V
- (11) Statement No. VI
- (12) Statement No. I

First Session, 1971.
Second Session, 1971.
Third Session, 1971.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1297/71]

PASSPORTS (THIRD AMENDMENT) RULES, 1971

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Passports (Third Amendment) Rules, 1971 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1783 in Gazette of India dated the 24th November, 1971, under sub-section (3) of section 24 of the Passports Act, 1967 [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1298/71]

CENTRAL APPRENTICESHIP COUNCIL (AMENDMENT) RULES, 1971

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION

LITATION (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Central Apprenticeship Council (Amendment) Rules, 1971 (Hindi and English versions) published in notification No. G.S.R. 1062 in Gazette of India dated the 24th July, 1971, under sub-section (3) of section 37 of the Apprentices Act, 1961. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1299/71]

10.02 hrs.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

NATIONAL SHIPPING BOARD

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : I beg to move :

That in pursuance of sub-section (2) (a) of Section 4 of the

Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, four members from among themselves to serve as members of the National Shipping Board."

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore) : This is a motion for electing four members to the National Shipping Board. Last time also elections took place. Fortunately or unfortunately I was one of the members elected but I am very sorry, Sir, not, a single meeting of the Board was convened. Not a single meeting took place.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : It was not constituted at all. One of the members resigned. I am sorry for that.

MR. SPEAKER : No meeting was ever held ?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : (Diamond Harbour) : The whole thing is a big joke.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai) : I have already written to you seeking your permission to draw the attention of the House to the fact that the whole country and Parliament are concerned about the cease-fire and also the presence of the Seventh Fleet. The House is entitled to know the correct position...

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Member was not here yesterday.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : The whole country is naturally anxious to know what is happening. Yesterday and also the day before yesterday, the whole House made a demand on Government that some statement should be made and some clarification should be made. Otherwise, what are we here for ? A serious complication may develop, and this morning, there is a radio report from the front that the Seventh Fleet is heading towards Chittagong. 16 valuable hours have been lost and we have been duped and we have been caught by the ruse of the cease-fire offer. May I know whether Government will make any statement ?

MR. SPEAKER : News is coming very day...

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD (Bhagalpur) : Unless Government themselves come forward to make a statement, we should not force them to make a statement.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Let the hon. Minister say whether Government are going to make a statement or not. Let him tell us 'Yes' or 'No', and the matter will end. Otherwise, how long can this kind of thing go on ?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : The feelings of the House have been conveyed to the Prime Minister and the Leader of the House and she will make a statement or Government will make a statement at the appropriate time. This is not the time for it, because things are moving and in a very delicate stage.

SHRI A. K. GOPALAN (Palghat) : Will Government make a statement today or not ?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : We are meeting this afternoon.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : This is the fourth time that he is saying it.

MR. SPEAKER : I have not put the motion moved by Shri Raj Bahadur yet to vote, because hon. Members had started raising other points. Now, I shall put it to vote.

The question is ;

"That in pursuance of sub-section (2) (a) of section 4 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, four members from among themselves to serve as members of the National Shipping Board".

The motion was adopted.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : He says that only one Member has resigned. So, only that vacancy has to be filled up. If

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

one Member has resigned why should four be elected? Let him hold elections for that single vacancy only.

श्री रामाबतार शास्त्री (पटना) : इस्तीफा तो एक ने दिया है, चार क्यों चुने जा रहे हैं?

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has said that the board was not constituted at all. Now, this motion is for the reconstitution of that board.

श्री रामाबतार शास्त्री : रिकॉस्टिट्यूशन की क्या बजह है?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : There are not only Members of Parliament, but there are others also. There were changes in regard to them also. So, the whole board is being reconstituted.

10.10 hrs.

INDUSTRIES (DEVELOPMENT AND REGULATION) (AMENDMENT) BILL

—Contd.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY) : Sir, I have already moved the motion.

We have introduced the Industries (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 1971 to deal with a situation about which the hon. Members of this House are aware and have frequently expressed concern. The spectre of sick and closed industrial units has already assumed a threatening dimension, bringing in its wake a chain of economic and social problems.

At a time when we are trying to accelerate our rate of growth and reach industrial self-sufficiency, these recent developments have necessitated some re-thinking as to what the Government can and should do to arrest the trend and reverse it.

We have taken a close look at the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act so

find out whether the existing provisions of the Act could meet the needs of the situation. While the existing provisions are all right to deal with a normal situation, these are quite inadequate in the present context.

Take, for instance, section 15 of the Act under which Government is empowered to make or cause to be made an investigation into the affairs of industrial undertakings. Whereas investigations under this section are extremely useful and necessary, they are time-consuming and may sometimes enable any unscrupulous management to fritter away whatever resources are left with it. Unfortunately, under the present Act there are no provisions to take over a concern without an investigation even though the Government might be having documentary or other evidence to the effect that the management is trying to ruin the concern.

Similarly, present provisions do not secure the long-term rehabilitation of industrial undertakings. An industrial unit taken over has to be returned to the original owner after an initial period up to five years or an extended period, but within a maximum period of 15 years in all. Thus, a mismanaged unit may be set right by the Government, but ultimately it has to be handed over to the same unscrupulous or incompetent management.

Apart from these, we have been considerably handicapped in the matter of taking over the management of industrial undertakings which, as a result of mismanagement or some other reason have gone into voluntary or compulsory liquidation and stopped production. There are no provisions under the existing Act to enable Government to take over such concerns to keep production going.

Similarly, there is no provision in the Act to prohibit the institution of any suit or other legal proceedings against an undertaking taken over by the Government. If decrees are obtained and assets are attached and brought to sale, the industrial undertaking taken over will be unable to recover and the very purpose for which an undertaking has been taken over by the Government may be defeated.