

bad, for the year 1972-73 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-8094/74].

REPORT ON FATAL ACCIDENT AT BASSI MEO STONE MINE IN GURGAON DISTRICT

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) on fatal accident on the 26th January, 1974 at Bassi Meo Stone Mine in village Ghatta Bassi Meo, Tehsil Ferozepur Jhirka (Distt. Gurgaon). [Placed in Library...See No. LT--8095/74.]

NOTIFICATION UNDER CENTRAL EXCISE RULES, 1944

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 345(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st of August, 1974 issued under sub-rule (3) of rule 224 of the Central Excise Rules, 1944. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-8096/74.]

12.29 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED ATTACK BY UNDERGROUND NAGAS ON POLICE PERSONNEL

SHRI D. K. PANDA (Bhanjanagar): I call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

The reported attack by underground Nagas armed with

automatic weapons near Chishilimi the lower Sema area on the camp of the Fifth Battalion killing 11 policemen.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT): Sir, according to preliminary information received so far, a patrol party of Nagaland Armed Police was ambushed by armed Naga hostiles at about 0900 hours on 27th July, 1974 near Chishilimi, about 23 miles North East of Kohima. The Naga hostiles opened fire with light machine guns and rifles as a result of which eleven constables of the Nagaland Armed Police were killed. The hostiles took away one light machine gun, eleven rifles and some ammunition. At about 1050 hours, another patrol party of Assam Rifles which had approached the same area from a different direction, intercepted the hostiles and opened fire on them. In the encounter the hostiles managed to escape but one rifle and some ammunition were recovered from the area. Fuller details of the ambush are awaited.

It is a matter for deep regret that so many precious lives of security forces personnel were lost in the discharge of their duties. As a measure of immediate and interim relief, Government of Nagaland have sanctioned ex-gratia payment of Rs. 1000/- to each of the bereaved families.

The violent activities of the underground have been recently on the increase and security operations have accordingly been stepped up. In the course of our discussions with the Chief Minister, Nagaland, our serious concern over the deteriorating situation in the State had been conveyed to him. The recent developments in Nagaland have been reviewed in consultation with Ministry of Defence and all possible measures are being taken to curb the activities of the underground.