

12.32 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:—

- (i) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Press and Registration of Books (Amendment) Bill, 1968, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 14th February, 1968."
- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Oaths Bill, 1968, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 14th February, 1968."

12.32½ hrs.

BILL AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA

LAID ON THE TABLE

SECRETARY: Sir, I lay on the Table of the House the following two Bills, as passed by Rajya Sabha on the 14th February, 1968:—

- (1) The Press and Registration of Books (Amendment) Bill, 1968.
- (2) The Oaths Bill, 1968.

12.32½ hrs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

SEVENTEENTH REPORT

SHRI M. R. MASANI (Rajkot): I beg to present the Seventeenth Report of the Public Accounts Committee on Paras 59 and 60 of Audit Report (Civil) on Revenue Receipts, 1966 and Paras 51, 56, 57, 58, 59 and 60 of Audit Report (Civil) on Revenue Receipts, 1967 relating to Income-tax.

12.33 hrs.

CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO S.Q. NO. 4 RE. LOSS TO RAILWAYS DURING LANGUAGE AGITATIONS

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with reference to my answers given in the Lok Sabha on 13-2-68, while dealing with supplementaries to Starred Question No. 4, I am to inform the House that, according to the information subsequently received, 26 arrests were made on 22-12-67 by Madras Police.....

SHRI NAMBIAR (Tiruchirappalli): I myself said that there were arrests made in Madras. You contradicted me.

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: ...and later 15 were released. It is understood that prosecution would be launched in the case of the remaining eleven persons.

As regards figures of loss furnished in reply to part (a) of the Question, it is now known that the loss to railway property to the extent of Rs. 15,693 shown against Kerala relates to the whole of the Olavakkot Division of the Southern Railway. This Division serves the Kerala State and a part of Madras State, and the loss actually took place on the portion lying within Madras State. Therefore,

[Shri C. M. Poonacha]
the figures of loss furnished in the statement would stand revised accordingly.

12.34 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH): Government Business in this House on the week commencing Monday the 19th February, 1968, will consist of:—

- (1) Further discussion on a motion of thanks on the President's Address.
- (2) General discussion on Railway Budget.
- (3) Discussion on Dr. Hazari's Report on Industrial Licensing Policy.

As the Members are aware, the Railway Budget for 1968-69 will be presented on the 19th February, 1968, after disposal of Questions.

12.35 hrs.

RE. SITUATION IN BIHAR AND WEST BENGAL

SHRI NATH PAI (Rajapur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wrote to you giving my notice of a motion regarding what has happened in the State of Bihar. I thought that since you have started a very healthy practice where grave matters are involved, you will provide an opportunity to the House. The fraud on the Constitution that has been committed by an individual who was not a Member of the Assembly by getting somebody first nominated as the Chief Minister for the sole purpose of then getting himself nominated as the Chief Minister is among the grossest frauds on the spirit of

the Constitution of India. This matter needs to be discussed in the House. Keeping this in view, I gave the notice of a motion as soon as the incident occurred. I also pleaded with you. I do not know what has happened to that. May I point out you were pleased to provide, I think, very rightly, an opportunity to this House to consider the constitutional issue in the State of Bengal—again, you are going to allow; I am very happy that you do—and the issue, I think, at stake in Bihar is no less? The Government was toppled on the floor of the House, very rightly—I think so—and I want that to happen in Bengal also. I want this wider issue to be decided on the floor of the House and not by the Governor, not in the streets. My question is very clear. I want to plead with you that we should be allowed an opportunity to discuss this kind of new practice, dangerous practice, with regard to Bihar.

MR. SPEAKER: Let me see.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): I fully support the motion moved by Mr. Nath Pai for a discussion on Bihar... (Interruption) Mr. Nath Pai does want everybody's support.

Another thing is that the Home Minister has made a statement today on the situation in West Bengal and I would beg of you to allow a discussion. On our part, we have tabled a motion. Because the situation may not go worse, I would only request you to allow in the next week a full-dress discussion on the constitutional deadlock in West Bengal.

MR. SPEAKER: I have got a number of motions.

SHRI RANGA (Srikakulam): We would also welcome a discussion on what has happened in Bihar as well as in West Bengal. But all Parties must make themselves responsible for the behaviour of their counterparts in these various Legislatures. If we are not prepared to allow the Governor to go into the Assembly and