

**COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF
MEMBERS FROM THE SITTINGS
OF THE HOUSE
MINUTES**

SHRI S. C. SAMANTA (Tamluk):
I beg to lay on the Table Minutes of the Eighth sitting of the Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House held during the current session.

12.51 hrs.

**CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT)
BILL—Contd.**

(AMENDMENT OF SEVENTH SCHEDULE)
BY **SHRI S. C. SAMANTA**
OPINION ON BILL

SHRI S. C. SAMANTA (Tamluk):
I beg to lay on the Table a paper containing opinions on the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, which was circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the direction of the House on the 12th May, 1972.

12.51½ hrs.

**PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE
SIXTIETH AND SIXTY-FIRST REPORTS**

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

- (1) Sixtieth Report regarding action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Twenty-eighth Report relating to the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Department of Agriculture.
- (2) Sixty-first Report regarding action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Second Report on Appropriation Accounts (P. & T.) 1968-69 and Audit Report (P. & T.), 1970.

12.52 hrs.

**COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS
EIGHTH AND NINTH REPORTS**

SHRI DEVENDRA SATPATHY (Dhenkanal): I beg to present the Eighth and Ninth Reports of the Committee on Petitions.

2.52½ hrs.

**JOINT COMMITTEE ON OFFICES
OF PROFIT
FOURTH REPORT**

SHRI D. BASUMATARI (Kokrajhar): I beg to present the Fourth Report of the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit.

12.53 hrs.

**STATEMENT RE, TAKE-OVER OF
WHOLESALE TRADE IN WHEAT
AND RICE**

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI F. A. AHMED): Hon'ble Members are aware that Government had already reached the decision to take over the wholesale trade in wheat and rice. This decision was taken in consultation with the Chief Ministers of the States. The essential features of the scheme are to give the public agencies a more dominant role in the procurement and distribution of wheat and rice and thereby eliminating the role of the middlemen. This decision has already been conveyed to the Lok Sabha in response to several questions answered in the House during the current session.

A conference of Food Ministers of States was held on 15th and 16th of December, 1972, to finalise the steps necessary to implement the decision already taken by the Government to take over wholesale trade in wheat and rice. In the conference the State governments were agreeable in principle to the decision taken by