

जापान (हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी संस्करण) ।

- (2) ऊपर के पत्रों को सभा-पटल पर रखने में हुये विलम्ब के कारण बताने वाला विवरण ।

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2290/68].

UTTAR PRADESH ELECTRICITY (TEMPORARY POWERS OF CONTROL) (CONTINUANCE), ACT

श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद : मैं उत्तर प्रदेश बिद्युत् (नियन्त्रण की अस्थायी शक्तियाँ) (जारी रखना) अधिनियम 1963 (हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी संस्करण) (1968 का राष्ट्रपति का अधिनियम संख्या 26) की एक प्रति सभा-पटल पर रखता हूँ जो उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य विधान मण्डल (शक्तियों का प्रत्यायोजन) अधिनियम, 1968 की धारा 3 की उप-धारा (3) के अन्तर्गत दिनांक 25 सितम्बर, 1968 के भारत के राजपत्र में प्रकाशित हुआ था ।

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2291/68].

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY: Sir I have to report the following message received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha, that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 21st November, 1968, agreed without any amendment to the Judges (Inquiry) Bill, 1968, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 19th August, 1968."

MOTOR VEHICLES (AMENDMENT) BILL

(i) REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE

SHRI SRADHAKAR SUPAKAR (Sambalpur): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report of the Joint Committee on the Bill further to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939.

(ii) EVIDENCE

SHRI SRADHAKAR SUPAKAR: I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the evidence given before the Joint Committee on the Bill further to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939.

12.54 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN INTERNATIONAL MONETARY SITUATION

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Finance Minister to make a statement. Is it a lengthy one?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): About four pages.

MR. SPEAKER: Then it may be laid on the Table.

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: I beg to lay a copy of the statement on the Table of the House.

Statement

Hon. Members have naturally been concerned regarding the possible effects on India's trade and payments of the recent developments in international financial markets. The situation is still fluid, but I thought that I should even at this stage share with the House my tentative assessment of the situation.

2. In recent weeks, the French franc has been under pressure, whereas the deutsche mark has been exceptionally strong. Due mainly to specu-

lative capital outflows, the French gold and foreign exchange reserves have declined since last May by about \$2850 million to about \$4000 million. The price of gold in the free market has moved up to \$40.75 per fine ounce. As a result of the large volume of speculative transactions, trading in foreign exchange has been suspended in Paris, Bonn and London.

3. The Governments concerned have taken various measures to deal with the situation. The French Government has announced measures which will reduce the budget deficit in 1969 by \$1000 million, and has reimposed exchange control. The Federal Republic of Germany has decided to levy certain export taxes and eliminate some levies on imports which will have the effect of making exports 4 per cent dearer and imports cheaper to the same extent. The Government of the United Kingdom has also announced a series of measures designed to make a major impact on domestic demand in Britain, with a consequent significant improvement in the balance of payments prospects. Certain fiscal changes designed to have the maximum effect on consumption have been announced. The ceiling on all bank lendings has been reduced. An Import Deposit Scheme has been introduced under which importers of goods accounting for about 40 per cent of Britain's total imports are required to deposit 50 per cent of the value of the imported goods with the Government for a period of six months; broadly speaking, this Scheme covers manufactured goods but excludes raw materials, food, feeding stuffs, oils and oil products. Jute sacks and jute bags and coir yarn, mats and matting are among the items excluded from the Scheme.

4. The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany has announced that it does not propose to change the external value of the deutsche mark. The Government of France has declared that the franc will not be devalued.

5. The Central Bank Governors and thereafter the Finance Ministers of the Group of Ten—USA, Canada, Japan, UK, Sweden, France, Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium and Italy—have been meeting to review the situation. It has been reported in the press that the Group of Ten intend to make available assistance of \$2000 million to support the franc.

6. The present crisis highlights the need for reform of the international monetary system in order to make available adequate liquidity to support international trade and payments and to counter speculative pressure. At the recent meeting of the Board of Governors of the International Monetary Fund, which I attended, I fully supported on behalf of India the scheme for the establishment of Special Drawing Rights. It is my hope that recent development would serve to emphasise the urgency of activating the scheme.

7. The speculative pressures as such are not likely to have any significant impact on the Indian economy. As far as our exporters are concerned, the forward cover facilities hitherto provided against genuine transactions will continue to be available.

8. The best safeguard for the healthy development of India's foreign trade is the maintenance of a stable international financial system. Therefore we welcome the remedial measures taken by the Governments concerned to reduce imbalances in their payments positions.

9. At the same time, we would naturally wish to ensure that any measures which may be adopted do not operate in such a manner as to affect exports from this country. I am glad to note that the United Kingdom, a major trading partner of India, has exempted some products of interest to us from the import deposit requirements. Cotton textiles would, however, be subject to the Scheme and our exports of this item may be somewhat affected.

[Shri Morarji Desai]

Our trade with France is comparatively small; our exports to that country during 1967-68 amounted to only Rs. 6 crores, while imports were about Rs. 33 crores. Nevertheless, it would in our view be desirable that all the exports of the developing countries, including India, be exempted from any measures that may be taken to curb imports, whether in the United Kingdom or any other developed countries.

10. We are glad that there is recognition that imbalances in payments have to be corrected by action on the part not only of the deficit but also of the surplus countries. In this connection we welcome the measures taken by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany.

11. Hon. Members will be concerned about the impact of recent monetary developments on the flow of assistance to developing countries, including India. To the extent that the remedial measures taken help to restore international monetary stability, they would secure a more stable climate for the flow of international assistance. We have always emphasised that developed countries should not allow transitory difficulties to deflect them from the fulfilment of their international obligations. It has been urged, for example, that despite the delay in the United States of America making its contribution to the International Development Association, other developed members of the Association should make their proposed contributions immediately available, as Canada has already done. It is our earnest hope that recent developments will not deter other countries from following the lead that Canada has once again given in the field of developmental assistance. In fact, as far as surplus countries are concerned, it would be in keeping with their desire to assist in the restoration of international monetary stability to provide a larger quantum of assistance to the developing countries.

12. In conclusion I should like to make it clear that, as far as we are concerned, there is no question of any change in the external value of the Indian rupee.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): Sir, it should be circulated because it relates to a very important matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Naturally. It is now laid on the Table. It will be circulated. I hope there are enough copies for circulation.

12.55 hrs.

RE: QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE

(Arrest of Shri Madhu Limaye)

श्री आर्ज करमेश्वरी (बम्बई-दलित) :
 अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य, श्री
 मधु लिमये, की गिरफ्तारी के प्रश्न को लेकर
 एक विशेषाधिकार का प्रश्न उठाना चाहता
 हूँ।

सदन के नियम 229 में लिखा है :

"When a member is arrested on a criminal charge or for a criminal offence or is sentenced to imprisonment by a court or is detained under an executive order, the committing judge, magistrate or executive authority, as the case may be, shall immediately intimate such fact to the Speaker."

लोक सभा के बुलेटिन पार्ट 2, नम्बर
 882, दिनांक 8 नवम्बर 1968 में श्री
 मधु लिमये की गिरफ्तारी के सम्बन्ध में
 लिखा है :