

13.01 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
ASSURANCES

MINUTES

Shri Siddananajappa (Hassan): I beg to lay on the Table the Minutes of the Sittings (14th to 17th) of the Committee on Government Assurances held during the current session.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): On a point of clarification, Sir. Yesterday a statement was laid on the Table of the House and you were good enough to direct or advise the Committee on Government Assurances to take up the matter and report by the next session. Is the House to understand that this matter, important as it is, will be taken up during the recess, so that the report will be submitted on the opening day of the next session? There are other assurances also which are pending for 3 or 4 years.

Mr. Speaker: I have not said that it would be taken up on the opening day. I have said during the next session the committee may make a report. The committee has to consider it now.

13.01½ hrs.

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 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Jawaharlal Nehru University Bill, 1965, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 6th December, 1965.'

13.02 hrs.

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVER-
SITY BILL

AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA

Secretary: I lay on the Table of the House the Jawaharlal Nehru University Bill, 1965, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

13.02½ hrs.

PRESIDENT'S ASSENT TO BILL

Secretary: Sir, I also lay on the Table the Taxation Laws (Amendment and Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, 1965 passed by the Houses of Parliament during the current Session and assented to by the President since a report was last made to the House on the 3rd December, 1965.

13.03 hrs.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

EIGHTY-EIGHTH REPORT

Shri A. C. Guha (Barasat): I beg to present the Eighty-eighth Report of the Estimates Committee on action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Thirty-third Report of the Estimates Committee on the erstwhile Ministry of Mines and Fuel-Coal Controller's Organisation, Coal Movement, Coal Board, Coal Washeries, Coal Council of India, etc.

13.03½ hrs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

FORTY-SECOND REPORT

Shri Morarka (Jhunjhunu): I beg to present the Forty-second Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the

Appropriation Accounts (Civil), 1963-64; Audit Report (Civil), 1965 and Audit Report (Commercial), 1965 relating to the Ministries of External Affairs, Health, Home Affairs, Information and Broadcasting and Labour and Employment.

13.07 hrs.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION BY
MEMBER

Shri G. N. Dixit (Etawah): Sir, on Friday, the 3rd December 1965, Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath's Private Members' Constitution (Amendment) Bill came up for consideration before the Lok Sabha for the purpose of changing the name of the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

13.04 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

THIRTEENTH REPORT

Shri P. G. Menon (Mukundapuram): I beg to present the Thirteenth Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings on the Management and Administration of Public Undertakings (Planning of Projects).

Mr. Speaker: The Food Minister would be making a statement on PL 480 imports at 2.30 P.M. today.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty (Barrackpore): He is doing nothing but making statements on PL 480!

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): What about the Prime Minister's statement?

Mr. Speaker: That will be made at 4.00 P.M.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Regarding PL 480, is he making a statement on the news which appeared this morning about President Johnson? I want to know that because we have tabled a calling attention notice on that.

Mr. Speaker: How can I say what statement he is going to make?

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: If I heard you aright, the Food Minister will be making a statement at 2.30 and the Prime Minister will be making a statement at 4 P.M. May I ask whether this will not result in an unusual erosion of private members' time, if two statements are to be made during that period? (Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Dixit.

I raised a point of order that the Bill could neither be introduced nor considered as under Article 3 of the Constitution a Bill for the purpose of altering the name of any State cannot be initiated except on the recommendation of the President. The point of order was resisted on the ground that the bar applied to the States and not to Union Territories. There being no definition of 'State' in Part I of the Constitution, I relied on Article 1 which says: "India, that is Bharat, shall be a Union of States". At the time I raised the point of order, the General Clauses Act was not with me. Later, I looked into it and I find that there was positive and categorical support to the correctness of my point of order. Article 367(1) makes the General Clauses Act applicable for the interpretation of the Constitution and the said Act—the General Clauses Act—gives the definition of the word State as under in section 3(58):—

"State"

(b) as respect any period after such commencement [commencement of the Constitution (Seventh amendment) Act, 1956] shall mean a State specified in the First Schedule to the Constitution and shall include a Union Territory."

While I was making my argument, and which argument was quite arguable even under Article 1, the hon. Member, Shri Nath Pai made an observation saying: "He says Union ter-