

Report for the plant. The terms and conditions of the proposed consultancy agreement are being negotiated with the firm.

According to the schedule of construction indicated in the detailed project report, the first stage of the Plant (1.5 million tonne ingot annually) is to be completed in 1967-68, and the second stage of the plant (4 million tonnes ingot annually) is to be completed in 1970-71. The detailed project report is now under scrutiny of a Technical Committee.

12 hrs.

RE: PROCEDURE ABOUT CALLING ATTENTION NOTICES

Shri Kapur Singh (Ludhiana): Before you take up the next item of business, I want to make a very brief submission. It concerns the whole House and therefore I am taking the liberty of making it here without first approaching you in the Chamber. It concerns the procedure adopted in relation to Calling Attention Notices. Yesterday, some of us, and I was one of them, submitted a Calling Attention Notice relating to the arming of the citizens of the so-called Azad Kashmir by the Pakistan authorities, and I was told that it is still under consideration. But, in the meantime this motion or notice was allowed in the other House and it came up there. Now, the result is when this kind of thing happens, it deflates the alertness of hon. Members of this House and denegrates this House's status and further makes us crestfallen and sullen. That is why I make this submission to you.

Mr. Speaker: Both the Houses are sovereign in their own procedures. I cannot just say anything about what procedure that House adopts.

Shri Kapur Singh: What is the solution?

Mr. Speaker: Then again the hon. Member would not advise me just to follow whatever they might do; but this distinction must be realised that with half the number of Members there, they have about the same time as we have with 500 Members. Therefore, they will certainly have greater opportunities if their sessions co-extend with ours and are co-terminous. They have the same time and they would require more work to do, while we require more time to finish our work. (*Interruption*) I am just describing the difficulties; that distinction is there. That House is sovereign and I cannot interfere with their procedure. Whatever they think it proper there, they have every right to proceed with that. If my procedure or what we have adopted here is being discussed, Members are welcome and we can discuss it here.

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): I think the objection was not raised against the Chair.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta Central): It is not a question of our having any doubts about the procedure that you have adopted but obviously it was on account of the Government's unreadiness to come to this House with the material on this subject that you held it over. But the Government was ready and willing to go to the other House, in preference to this House, which is something quite irrespective of what you have just now said. There may be some reason, good bad or indifferent, if the other House has less work or there is no work essentially speaking. That is a different matter. But on this occasion, what the Ministers have done is to misguide and misinform you and do something which amounts to a virtual disregard of this House to which they are primarily responsible. That was my point.

Shri Ranga (Chittoor): There are three parties here: The Secretariat, the hon. Members and yourself. Any one or all of us must be responsible for this failure.

Mr. Speaker: Why should all of us take the responsibility?

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): On this subject, I would like to say that in the other House there is no Adjournment Motion. Here, we use our right to give notice of Adjournment Motions only thinking that you are kind enough to admit them as Calling Attention Notices. Of course, I do not impute any motives to the Ministers, But I gather from Members that for the last three or four months the Ministers do not pay any attention to calling attention notices or take them seriously.

Mr. Speaker: The moment I receive a notice, if I do not disallow it, I send it to the Minister for information so that he might just give his reaction whether he has got any information or not. If he has not got the information, certainly he can ask for some time. In that case, I do not bring it immediately before the House, because then the answer of the Minister would be that the information is being collected, and I do not want to waste the time of the House. So, in such cases, I ask the Government to get the information.

Shri Daji (Indore): Then the Minister goes and gives a reply in the Rajya Sabha.

Mr. Speaker: The question that Shri Mukerjee has raised is very important. If that has happened, it is certainly very unfortunate. I will look into it.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: If it is an adjournment motion, Government immediately take notice of it.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): It will help us to assess the manner in which things happen yesterday if you would kindly enlighten the House as to whether the notice was disallowed by you straightaway, or it was admitted by you and sent to

the Minister, and the Minister refused to give a reply here and preferred the other House. What actually happened yesterday?

Mr. Speaker: I will look into it. Now, we will take up the Calling Attention Notice. Shri Bade.

12.07 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

COLLISION OF HOWRAH-MADRAS EXPRESS WITH A LORRY AT AN UNMANNED LEVEL CROSSING

Shri Bade (Khargone): Mr. Speaker, I call the attention of the Minister of Railways to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The reported collision of the Howrah-Madras Express with a lorry at an unmanned level crossing between Amanabrolu and Karavadi stations on the 5th December, 1963 resulting in the death of four persons".

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): Sir, on 15th December 1963 at 9.51 hours while train . . .

Mr. Speaker: Which was the date?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: 5th December.

Mr. Speaker: I understood him to say 15th December.

An Hon. Member: We also heard him like that.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I am sorry. It is a slip of the tongue.

Shri Nambiar (Toruchirapalli): But there should not be any slip at least in the running of the trains.