

[Shri Man Singh P. Patel]

Minutes of the First sitting of the Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House held during the First Session.

12:13½ hrs.

CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO S. Q.
No. 1363

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): Sir, I regret that the answer given by me to the supplementary question by Shri Ansar Harvani is likely to create the impression that the Police searched the premises of some allied institutions of the Central Jute Mills Company Limited also. The correct position is that only the premises of the Central Jute Mills Company were searched and no premises of any allied institution were searched by the Police.

12:14½ hrs.

STATEMENT RE. REPORT OF
SOLVEEN DELEGATION

The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam): Sir, I must first apologise for not having been present on the 13th of this month to answer the Questions in the Lok Sabha. I had made my programme on the basis of 13th being a holiday. Intimation that Parliament was sitting on the 13th was received by me too late for me to cancel my tour programme at Rourkela and return to Delhi.

2. While answering the Supplementaries on Starred Question No. 1440 in the Lok Sabha, my colleague, Shri P. C. Sethi, stated that the formal Report of the Solveen Mission had not yet been received by Government. The Speaker has desired that I should make a Statement on this, in view of my earlier replies to the effect that I had received a copy. During my re-

ply to the Debate on Demands for Grants for the Ministry of Steel and Heavy Industries, I mentioned that I had received a copy of the Solveen Report. That was an advance copy of the report given to the Secretary, Department of Iron and Steel, Shri Wanchoo, when he was at Bonn and that was transmitted to Delhi.

3. What is important in Reports of this kind is the nature of recommendations made and the action taken thereon. The formality of a signed report does not seem to be very relevant except for the purpose of publication. Therefore, the Government, on the basis of the advance copy of the Report, have already initiated action to remedy the defects pointed out in the Report.

4. The formal copy of the Report also has since been received on the 15th June 1962. Steps will be taken to place it on the Table of the House in due course.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla (Mahasamund): Is there any difference in the formal copy of the Report and the advance copy that was received? Are there any changes that have been made in these two reports?

Shri C. Subramaniam: Not that I know of.

Shri Morarka (Jhunjhunu): By what time does the hon. Minister hope to place this Report on the Table of the House?

Shri C. Subramaniam: During the course of the next sitting, perhaps.

Mr. Speaker: Next sitting or next Session?

Shri C. Subramaniam: Next Session, Sir.

Shri Daji (Indore): The hon. Minister was pleased to promise to us that after the Report has been received and Government has taken a decision thereon, he will acquaint

the House with the decision. Now he has just now stated that without waiting for the formal report certain steps on the basis of the recommendations contained in the advance copy have already been initiated. So, will he enlighten us as to what steps have already been initiated?

Shri C. Subramaniam: They are to get the necessary spare parts and to get certain other equipments which are necessary for the purpose of the working of the three blast furnaces.

12.16 hrs.

MOTION RE: INDIAN ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE (PAY) RULES

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur (Jalore): Sir, I beg to move:

"This House resolves that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951, the following amendment be made in Notification No. G.S.R. 101 dated the 27th January, 1962, making amendment in Schedule III to the Indian Administrative Service (Pay) Rules, 1954, laid on the Table on the 26th April, 1962, namely:—

For 300, substitute 200.

This House recommends to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do concur in the said resolution."

This is in respect of a notification laid on the Table of the House by the hon. Home Minister. By my amendment I have asked that the Special Pay, instead of being raised from Rs. 250 to Rs. 300, should be brought down to Rs. 200 in the first instance.

I would not have ventured to take the time of this august House if it was only a question of a few rupees here or a few rupees there. But I have considered it advisable to come to this House and to focus the attention of the hon. Minister and of this

House on this because I feel that it is a step in the wrong direction and that it affects the integrity and the efficiency of the services. We do not grudge a small allowance to the best of our services when it is necessary, but from the little that I have studied the subject, I find that we are going just in the wrong direction. Now, under this notification what is proposed to be done is that the special pay of those officers who are at almost the highest slab in the pay structure is proposed to be raised from Rs. 250 to Rs. 300. I see no justification whatsoever for this.

In the first place, I would like to refer and invite the attention of the hon. the Home Minister to the Fundamental Rules under which the special pay is sanctioned. Now Fundamental Rule 9(25) makes it clear that it is only in consideration of (a), (b) and (c) stipulated there that a special pay should be sanctioned. What are those considerations in lieu of which this special pay is sanctioned? They are: (a) specially arduous nature of the duties; (b) specific addition to the work or responsibilities; (c) unhealthiness of the locality in which the work is performed. Now, if you look at the list which gives the special pay sanction, you will find that at least 90 per cent of the posts are those where the officers are stationed either at the State headquarters or at the Central Government headquarters. Now everybody who belongs to the cadre of IAS and who comes to the Secretariat in Delhi is entitled to get Rs. 200 if he is posted as Under Secretary; or Rs. 300 if he is posted as Deputy Secretary. Now, let us examine this in the context of these rules.

These rules mention specially arduous nature of the duties. Nobody will venture to say that the duties of an Under Secretary or Deputy Secretary are specially arduous. I do not think consideration one is fulfilled. Nor is consideration No. 2 fulfilled. There is no specific addition to the