

supported. This news has also come over the Radio this morning, and I am sure that this counsel will prevail.

Our report says that yesterday's strike in schools and colleges was peaceful. I think all parties recognise the need for restraint and I certainly hope that not only will the situation in Bengal be peaceful, but also that the students and youth of Assam will appreciate the concern felt in other States and the difficulty which all the people of India are experiencing, and respond by showing responsibility and moderation.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There cannot be any discussion on the statement. Nothing should be recorded without my permission.

SHRI MANI RAM BAGRI (Hissar): **

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

13.10 hrs.

PETITION RE. ESTABLISHMENT OF RATNAGIRI ALUMINIUM PROJECT IN MAHARASHTRA

SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR (Ratnagiri): I beg to present a petition signed by Shrimati Kusum Ramchandra Abhyankar and others regarding establishment of Ratnagiri Aluminium Project in Maharashtra.

13.10½ hrs.

STATEMENT RE. REPORT OF NATIONAL FLOOD COMMISSION

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY, IRRIGATION AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): The National Flood Commission (Rashtriya Barh Ayog) has today forwarded to the Central Gov-

ernment a report along with its recommendations on the various matters referred to it.

2. It may be recalled that from time to time references have been made in Parliament regarding the need for an effective flood control programme in the country. Keeping these in view, the Government of India had constituted the National Flood Commission (Rashtriya Barh Ayog) in 1976, under the Chairmanship of Shri Jaisukh Lal Hathi, for reviewing in depth various aspects of the flood problem, and to evolve a comprehensive multi-disciplinary approach for tackling floods in the country. A summary of some of the important recommendations made by the National Flood Commission is placed on the Table of the House. A few copies of the full report are being placed in the library of Parliament.

Summary of some important recommendations in the report of the National Flood Commission (Rashtriya Barh Ayog) submitted to the Government of India on 21st March, 1980.

1. The approach to the problem of floods must form part of the overall comprehensive planning for water resources development and land utilisation for optimum production on a long term basis.

2. Master plans for water resources development and flood control should be drawn up for each river basin, and for this purpose. River Basin authorities should be set up.

3. A Central Authority may be constituted in due course of time with the Prime Minister as its Chairman, and should be assisted by a strong technical body.

4. The Central Government should exercise the powers conferred on it by the Constitution under entry 56 of the