

bers of the Committee had met as many as ten times. The correct position is that they had met five times, each meeting lasting for a duration of three or four days. I am now making the necessary correction.

**CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO  
STARRED QUESTION Nos 1298 and  
1315**

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar) (On behalf of the Minister of Education). Sir, on behalf of Dr Shrimali I am making the following statement:

"I had stated that in 1957-58 we gave assistance to the State Governments towards the appointment of Hindi teachers in non-Hindi speaking areas at 66 per cent of the total approved expenditure. Actually the rate of Central assistance was 60 per cent during that year"

12.34 hrs.

**CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO  
STARRED QUESTION No 1486**

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar) (On behalf of the Minister of Education): Sir, on behalf of Dr Shrimali I am making the following statement:

"In reply to a supplementary question to Starred Question No. 1486 by Shri Naval Prabhakar regarding the construction of school buildings, I replied as follows:

In 1957-58, 46 buildings were proposed for construction. 24 buildings of a permanent type and 15 buildings which included children's homes are under construction.

The second sentence of the reply may kindly be amended to read as follows:—

15 buildings of a permanent type including children's homes and 14 of temporary type are under construction."

**STATEMENT RE. FOREIGN  
EXCHANGE POSITION**

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): I thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to report to the House on recent developments relating to our foreign exchange situation. The keen interest that hon. Members have taken in this somewhat complex aspect of our economy is of great value since it serves to keep constantly before the public eye what is one of the important determinants of our economic future.

The factors that have led to the continued heavy drawing on our foreign exchange reserves during the Second Plan period have been discussed in the House on several occasions in the recent past and are set forth in some detail in the Planning Commission's paper on the fall in the foreign exchange reserves that was laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha by the Prime Minister on the 20th March, 1958.

Hon Members are aware of the remedial steps taken by Government; as soon as it became apparent that there was likely to be a large deficit in our balance of payments, prompt measures were taken to centralise fully the whole system of foreign exchange control, to re-introduce the system of foreign exchange budgeting and to take all possible measures to restrict imports by a system of foreign exchange allocations for different purposes determined—on what has been an austerity basis—in consultation with the Planning Commission. Apart from the restrictions on imports, foreign exchange facilities for tourist travel abroad were totally stopped and exchange was released on a restricted basis only for business travel or for travel justified on medical grounds or for attending certain educational and technical training courses. Side by side, with such restrictions, emphasis was placed on the need to take positive steps to earn more foreign exchange by promotion of exports.