12.08 hrs.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

THIRTY-FIRST REPORT

Shri B. G. Mehta (Goh lwad). 1 beg to present* the Thirty-first Report of the Estimates Committee on the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Twelfth Report of the Estimates Committee (First Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting—All India Radio

12 08} hrs.

DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS (RAILWAYS) FOR 1955-56

The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram): I beg to present a statement showing Demands for Excess Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for 1955-56

12.08} hrs.

DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS (RAILWAYS) FOR 1956-57

Shri Jagjivan Ram. I bog to present a statement showing Demands for Excess Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for 1956-57

12 09 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

EXPLOSION OF BRITISH SUPER-TANKER, Stanuag Japan

Shri Ram Krishan (Mahendergarh). Under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Transport and Communications to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

"The explosion of the British Tanker Stanuac Japan in the Arabian Sea and the casualties among the Indian personnel of the ship"

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): The statement runs into three pages Shall I lay it on the Table of the House?

Mr Deputy-Speaker: Yes, it may be laid on the Table

Shri Raj Bahadur: I beg to lay it on the Table

Statement

It is with the deep regret that I rise to make this statement on the explosion of the British tanker ss 'Stanvac Japan" on the 19th October, 1958 in which 10 Indian Seamen (including one Portuguese Indian) and 10 British officers lost their lives

- 2 According to the information available to Government, s.s. "Stanvac Japan", belonging to Messrs Standard Vacuum Transportation Company Ltd was built in Japan in 1953 and had a gross tonnage of about 17,400. The vessel was fitted with two high pressure oil-fired boilers with turbine machinery. She was equipped with the life-saving and fire appliances applicable to her class and trade
- 3 The vessel left Bombay on the 17th October, 1958 with British officers numbering 17 and Indian crew 54 in number of whom 44 were Indian nationals and 10 Portuguese Indians, all of them having been engaged on Indian Articles At the time of its departure, she carried 9,000 tons ballast
- 4 The unfortunate accident took place on Sunday the 19th October at about 1400 hours while on her way from Bombay to Rastanaura, (where she was to take another load) about 30 miles south east of Karachi and over 500 miles north west of Bombay.