

(b) the reason as to why the Director general did not hold such meetings; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

**The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan):** (a) Monthly meeting with the realigned P. & T. Unions have been restored at the Divisional and Circle levels but not at the Central level.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the table of the Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 33].

**Nullah near Safdarjang Air Port, New Delhi**

**454. Shri Balraj Madhok:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a long standing demand of the residents of Delhi for a bridge on the Nullah near the Safdarjang Air Port;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a decision has been taken to build a bridge on this Nullah; and

(c) if so, how long it will take to start construction of this bridge?

**The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar):** (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) The work has already been started and is expected to be completed by May next.

—  
12 hrs.

**CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

**REPORTED CLASH AMONG COALMINERS IN KOTHAGUDIUM**

**Shri Assar (Ratnagiri):** Sir, under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Labour and Employment to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make statement thereon:

"The reported clash between the two groups of coalminers in the

colliery town of Kothagudium and police firing resulting in the death of seven miners."

**The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali):** On Holi Day, the 21st March 1962, a quarrel took place near a toddy shop between two sections of mine workers, who were presumably drunk. The police rushed to the spot and took effective steps.

On the next day, further clashes among the two groups took place in different locality, resulting in the death of four workers.

Altogether 84 persons were injured in these clashes.

A number of police officers, including the Superintendent, received injuries and the police were forced to open fire, for which warning was given. One person died and three were injured as a result of this firing.

A magisterial enquiry has been ordered by the State Government.

28 persons have been arrested for rioting etc.

A peace committee has been formed and the situation is now quiet.

—  
12.02 hrs.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

#### NOTIFICATIONS UNDER ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri S. K. Patil):** I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Orders under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955—

(i) The Fertiliser (Control) Amendment Order, 1962, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 276 dated the 3rd March, 1962,