

MOTION

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do join in the Joint Committee of the Houses on the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to arms and ammunition and resolves that the following members of the Rajya Sabha be nominated to serve on the said Joint Committee:—

Shri Ahmad Said Khan, Shri Har Prasad Saksena, Shri-mati Maya Devi Chettry, Shri B. Parameswaran, Shri Narotham Reddy, Shri Onkar Nath, Thakur Bhanu Pratap Singh, Shri Govind Chandra Misra, Sardar Raghubir Singh Panjhazari, Shri P. N. Rajabhoj, Shri N. C. Sekhar, Shri Faridul Haq Ansari, Shri Anand Chand, Shri B. D. Khobaragade, Shrimati Vollet Alva."

- (3) I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Pharmacy (Amendment) Bill, 1959, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 11th February, 1959, has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 22nd April, 1959, with the following amendments:—

Clause 3

1. That at page 2, after line 21, the following be inserted, namely:—

"(iia) registered in a medical register of a State, who, although not falling within sub-clause (i) or sub-clause (ii) is declared by a general or special order made by the State Government in this behalf as a person practising the modern scientific system of medicine for the purposes of this Act; or"

2. That at page 4, for lines 20 to 24, the following be substituted, namely:—

"(d) the names of persons who carry on the business or profession of pharmacy in the State, and

(i) would have satisfied the conditions for registration as set out in section 31, on the date appointed under sub-section (2) of section 30, had they applied for registration on or before that date; or

(iii) have been engaged in the compounding of drugs in a hospital or dispensary or other place in which drugs are regularly dispensed on prescriptions of medical practitioners as defined in sub-clause (iia) of clause (f) of section 2 for a total period of not less than five years prior to the date appointed under sub-section (2) of section 30;"

I am, therefore, to return herewith the said Bill in accordance with the provisions of rule 126 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha with the request that the concurrence of the Lok Sabha to the said amendments be communicated to this House."

12-14 hrs.

BILL RETURNED BY RAJYA SABHA WITH AMENDMENTS LAID ON THE TABLE

Secretary: Sir, I beg to lay on the Table of the House the Pharmacy (Amendment) Bill, 1959, which has been returned by Rajya Sabha with amendments.

12-14½ hrs.

PRESIDENT'S ASSENT TO BILLS

Secretary: Sir, I lay on the Table the following three Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament during the

current session and assented to by the President since a report was last made to the House on the 20th April, 1959:—

- 1 The Appropriation (No 2) Bill, 1959
2. The Finance Bill, 1959
3. The Reserve Bank of India (Amendment) Bill, 1959.

12-14½ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS

FOURTEENTH REPORT

Shri Mulchand Dube (Farrukabad)
Sir, I beg to present the Fourteenth Report of the Committee on Absence of Members from the sittings of the House.

I also lay on the Table a copy of the statement showing the names of Members who have been absent for 15 days or more continuously from the 9th February to the 31st March, 1959 during the Seventh Session.

12-14½ hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

ACCIDENT IN DURGAPUR STEEL PROJECT

Shri Subodh Hansda (Midnapur—Reserved-Sch. Tribes). Sir, under rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the hon. Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The accident in Durgapur Steel Project resulting in the death of five persons and injuries to seven others."

102(AI) L.S.D.—4.

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): Sir, I am sorry to inform the House that on the morning of the 27th April, 1959 an unfortunate accident took place at the construction site of the Durgapur Steel Plant. According to the information received from Durgapur, the accident took place at about 7.45 A.M. last Monday. While some workmen of the contractor were fixing roof trusses in the heavy forging bay of the blooming mills of the plant under construction, three of the trusses under erection at the north end of the bay collapsed, resulting in the death of two workmen immediately and injury to several others. One workman died on the way to hospital and four were admitted to the project hospital in the steel township, of whom two died subsequently. Four serious injury cases were sent to Burdwan district hospital for treatment, of whom one has died. Thus the total number of deaths is six. All five serious injury cases were receiving treatment in Durgapur and Burdwan hospitals, of whom one has since been discharged. The others are, however, reported to be out of danger. Three of the workmen had minor injuries and were given outdoor treatment only.

Besides, the enquiries which are being conducted by ISCON, the Project authorities have appointed a committee of enquiry to go into the facts of the accident and the Committee is going into the matter. The report of the Committee is expected to be available in the course of this week. It appears that while three senior engineers of the contractors were supervising generally at site and were at some distance from the scene of accident, they were not on the spot of the accident at the time the accident took place. I am informed that all necessary erection equipment including a mobile crane was available for the erection work, but no over-head cranes were necessary for this work.