

(vi) The Gresham and Craven of India (Private) Limited (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Ordinance, 1977 (No. 14 of 1977.) [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1005/77].

(vii) The Indian Iron and Steel Company (Acquisition of Shares) Amendment Ordinance, 1977 (No. 15 of 1977). [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1006/77].

(viii) The Advocates (Amendment) Ordinance, 1977 (No. 16 of 1977). [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1007/77. For (i) to (viii)].

I. Report of the Election Commission of India on Biennial Elections to the Council of States and Legislative Councils, 1976—(Narrative and Statistical).

II. The Delimitation of Council Constituencies (Uttar Pradesh) Second Amendment Order, 1977.

III. The Election Commission of India Notifications.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI NAR-SINGH YADAV): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Report of the Election Commission of India on Biennial Elections to the Council of States and Legislative Councils, 1976—(Narrative and Statistical). [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1031/77].

II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs (Legislative Department) Notification G.S.R. No. 615(E), dated the 23rd September, 1977, publishing the Delimitation of Council Constituencies (Uttar Pradesh) Second Amendment Order, 1977, under sub-section (3) of section 13 of the Representation of People Act, 1950. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1029/77].

III. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the Election Commission of India Notifications S.O. Nos. 684(E), and 685(E), dated the 24th September, 1977, under sub-section (3) of section 13 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1030/77].

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE (1977-78)

SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR (Maharashtra): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Seventeenth Report of the Public Accounts Committee on Export of Bicycles and Bicycle Components during 1970 relating to the Ministry of Commerce.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

I. Samachar News Agency

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI LAL K. ADVANI): Sir, Honourable Members will recall my statement in the House on April 7, '77, on the circumstances leading to the formation of SAMACHAR with the merger of the four news agencies that had functioned till then. I had also indicated that in view of wide spread criticism that had been made against this set-up and the commitment of this Government to ensuring freedom of the Press, I was setting up a Committee of Experts to examine and report on the future of "SAMACHAR"

This Committee, as Members are aware, was constituted on 19th April, 1977 under the chairmanship of Shri Kuldip Nayar with eleven other members. The Report of the Committee was submitted on 13th August, '77 and was released soon thereafter so that Government could have the benefit of the reactions of the press and the public in general in formulating their approach to the recommendations that have been made. On August 31, '77