

I. A copy each of the following Notifications of the Government of Andhra Pradesh, under sub-section (2) of section 69 of the Andhra Pradesh Panchayat Samithis and Zilla Parishads Act, 1959, read with sub-clause (iii) of clause (c) of the Proclamation dated the 18th January, 1973, issued by the President in relation to the State of Andhra Pradesh :—

(i) Notification G.O.Ms. No. 59, Panchayati Raj (Samithi-I), dated the 27th March, 1973.

(ii) Notification G.O.Ms. No. 93, Panchayati Raj (Samithi-I), dated the 4th May, 1973, publishing an Amendment to the Andhra Pradesh Panchayat Samithis and Zilla Parishads Ministerial Service Rules.

(iii) Notification G.O.Ms. No. 119, Panchayati Raj (Samithi-I), dated the 22nd May, 1973, publishing Rules relating to the use of common seal of Panchayat Samithis and Zilla Parishads.

(iv) Notification G.O.Ms. 120, Panchayati Raj (Samithi-I), dated the 22nd May, 1973, publishing an Amendment to Rules regarding the Powers and Functions of the Secretary Zilla Parishad.

II. Explanatory Notes on, and the statement giving reasons for the delay in laying, the notifications mentioned at I(i) to (iv) above.

III. Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for not laying simultaneously Hindi version of the papers mentioned at I and II above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-5599/73]

Audit Report on the Accounts (1970-71) of the Tea Board

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI OM MEHTA): Sir, on behalf of Shri A. C. George, I beg to lay on the Table a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Audit Report

on the Accounts of the Tea Board for the year 1970-71. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5600/73]

Reports (1970-71) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on various Undertakings

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table under clause (1) of article 151 of the Constitution, a copy each of the following Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1970-71 :—

(i) Union Government (Commercial) Part VI-Hindustan Shipyard Limited.

(ii) Union Government (Commercial) Part VII-Indian Oil Corporation Limited (Marketing Division).

(iii) Union Government (Commercial) Part VIII-Modern Bakeries (India) Limited.

Placed in Library. See No. LT-5595/73 for (i) to (ii)

REFERENCE TO STATE TAKEOVER OF FOODGRAINS—Contd.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: But, Sir . . .
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have expressed whatever resentment you wanted to express and you have expressed it in a way not in keeping with the Rules of Procedure.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Which Rule says that the pledge given to Parliament should be violated?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Are you going to listen to me or not?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: You show me that Rule.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat. While I am on my feet you take your seat.

After having expressed your resentment and in a manner in which you are not

supposed to do because if you wanted to make a submission you could have done it after the Papers were laid with the permission of the Chair...

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: What Papers? You go by the routine thing?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is a routine which we follow.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: No, we must get an...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Anyway you have expressed your resentment. Now let us proceed with the business of the House.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: It is not merely a question of expressing resentment. Resentment of course is there. What we want here and now is a categorical assurance that the pledge given to Parliament will be honoured.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He will convey it to the Minister concerned.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA (Orissa): You must listen to the other point of view also.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: What is the other point of view?

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: The Prime Minister is meeting the Leaders and... (Interruptions) I would advise the Government not to succumb to the pressure of the CPI.

(Interruptions)

SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA: The Government have given an assurance to the House that they will takeover wholesale trade in rice. The Government has given an assurance. It is a question of prestige of the House. It must assert itself.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: The House does not consist of CPI only...

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Nothing will be recorded.

(Several hon. Members went on speaking)

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI (Maharashtra): Sir, on a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You may now take down.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: The implementation had been decided upon. They have gone back. It is an act of surrender to the monopolists, the hoarders and the speculators...

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: Why should it be recorded at all?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You take your seat Mr. Chinai. I have got to deal with the situation. You cannot dictate to me. Please take your seat. If he wants to make a submission...

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I wish to say on behalf of our party and the people at large that we view with the greatest concern the virtual abandonment of the policy of the takeover of the wholesale trade in wheat and rice. We have given a solemn assurance in this House and through this House to the nation that the takeover would be kept up not only in respect of wheat, but also in respect of rice...

SOME HON MEMBERS: No, no.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: with the coming kharif crop. During the last few months you have seen how the hoarders, profiteers, blackmarketeers and right reaction have deliberately, calculatedly sabotaged the take over of wholesale trade in wheat, taking advantage of the situation. It is the demand of the nation that it should not be given up. That there should be free market operation, that the blackmarketeers and the hoarders should be allowed to run amok in the country and that the nation should be allowed to be held to ransom by them—we reject this policy. We know...

MR DEPUTY CHAIRMAN Mr Mathur

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (Interruptions) their supporters have joined against the hoarders in order to bring down the prices

(Interruptions)

MR DEPUTY CHAIRMAN Yes, Mr Mathur I have called him Mr Gupta

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA It is in the interest of the country, in the interest of the people. But the Government had gone back on their promise, which means hoarding, scarcity, profiteering and also mortgaging the nation to the hoarders. I hope Sir, that this will never be permitted. May I appeal to my friends of the ruling party many of whom have shared our anxiety and our thoughts in this matter? Hoarding and profiteering should not be strengthened. (Time bell rings) We should fight back and stop blackmarketing. It is part of the reactionary tactics in this country. They want to starve the nation. (Time bell rings) You must remember it is a blow not against any particular class or any particular party or interest; it is a blow towards the citizens against the nation as a whole. (Time bell rings) The blow should be resisted unitedly by all. Sir, Mr Om Mehta has not yet called the Minister to give an emphatic assurance that from the kharif crop the rice takeover would be there and would be brought into operation and it would not be allowed to be given up. We propose to return to the field again and again so long as we do not get an assurance. In resentment we walk out of the House.

(The hon. Member followed by Members of his party then walked out of the chamber.)

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON (Kerala) Sir, in protest against the policy of take over of whole sale trade in rice our party also walks out.

(At this stage the hon. Member along with his Party Members walked out of the House.)

SHRI PITAMBER DAS (Uttar Pradesh) Sir, I have a submission to make. I can very well understand the anxiety of Mr Bhupesh Gupta with regard to the matters that he has raised. But let us try to understand the difficulty of the persons sitting on the other side. It is a matter of broad policy and unless of course, that policy has been finally settled down, how can the Government be expected to make a statement in the House? Apart from that even if Mr Gupta wanted a certain statement to be made, naturally, the statement cannot be made in such a noisy atmosphere. His friends ought to have kept quiet and waited patiently for what Mr Om Mehta wanted to say. We welcome the move by the Prime Minister who has called the Leaders of the Opposition to meet her on the 6th morning. The matter has to be decided on the 6th morning. Whatever might be our differences with the Government on the policy of foodgrains or rice takeover, certainly, there is a way of doing things and Parliament has to be conducted in an orderly manner. I very much regret the behaviour that Mr Bhupesh Gupta has shown over this matter. After all there are other parties also in this House. They may be holding different views so far as the question of rice takeover is concerned. If he was anxious to have his say he should have waited to hear the say of the other parties also.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA Sir, I endorse the views of Mr Pitamber Das so far as the behaviour of Mr Bhupesh Gupta who is one of the senior most Members, in creating a disorderly scene in this is concerned. I am very happy that he has made room for other sober elements to put forward their view after having walked out of the House.

Sir, the Prime Minister had called the Leaders of the Opposition day before yesterday, that is on the 31st. We have to meet again on the 6th September. It would

have been really appropriate if the Government had come and announced in the House as to what the final decision in this regard is after the Leaders of the Opposition had met and discussed about the position, else the 6th meeting would be useless, redundant. Why should there be a meeting of the Leaders of the Opposition when the Government makes a statement on the floor of the House even before the meeting is attended by the Leaders of the Opposition?

Sir the point of view put forward by him was that the Government is going back on certain assurances. I do not know whether the Government had given any assurance on the floor of this House regarding the taking over of the rice trade.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No, no. I do not remember that at least. So far as the experience is concerned after the Government was pressurised to takeover the wholesale trade in wheat some areas have been completely starved. The Government have not been able to gear up its machinery yet and therefore the farthest corners of India are going without wheat even though there are fair price shops.

SHRI D. D. PURI (Haryana): May I appeal to the honble Member not to go into the merits of the wholesale trade takeover?

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA (Mr Deputy Chairman): Sir, Mr D. D. Puri cannot be asked to do your functions. Cannot you ask him to sit down? Please do it ruthlessly. The wheat has not been able to be reached to the farthest corner. Therefore, they have gained the experience that the machinery is inadequate. The Government should one hundred and one times think before taking any decision in the matter. Ideologically on policy I am against takeover of any thing because the Government have mismanaged the whole thing. The Government on its own should also think one hundred and one times before thinking of taking over the wholesale rice trade. The Government should not be pressurised by parties like the CPI or the CPM.

These are parties who are sabotaging the entire economy of the country and they are the worst left reactionaries. Their sabotage should be foreseen by the Government and the Government should be cautious in dealing with them and take advice from others. This is what I have to say.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I very strongly condemn the unpatriotic behaviour of Mr Bhupesh Gupta in the House today as also that of his party, the CPI. I strongly feel that they, in the guise of friends are in fact stabbing the Government in the back and they are out to create chaos and confusion in the country. I would ask the Government never to succumb to the dictates of the CPI or the CPI(M). Otherwise, Sir, it will be a very dangerous, or rather a disastrous, precedent and in future any party can hold this august House to ransom and stop its proceedings.

Sir the experience of wheat takeover has not been a very happy one. Naturally the Government should be and is cautious in having a second thought on rice control. Therefore a meeting of the leaders of the Opposition has been called on the 6th. I do not know whether any assurance was given in the House or not, but even if an assurance was given in the House I do not think that the Government does not have the right to modify its assurance in the light of their experience gained in wheat takeover. And then whatever would be done, would be done with the consent of the House naturally. Therefore Sir I would only say that this sort of precedent should not be allowed in the House and though Mr Bhupesh Gupta is a very senior Member of the House I am extremely sorry to say that this kind of rowdy behaviour of his and his party is simply detestable and should be condemned by the entire House.

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I would like to say that I do not condemn Mr Bhupesh Gupta and his people, but rather in a way I appreciate their attempt because this should impress

[Shri S. S. Mariswamy.]
upon the Government that what happened in the House today is a prelude to what they are going to enact in the country tomorrow. They are out to create chaos and confusion wherever that is possible. They are playing havoc after the wheat takeover and they want to play havoc after forcing the Government to take over rice also. That is what their plan is. I am very glad Mr. Bhupesh Gupta had given an exhibition of it in the House today. He held the House to ransom for 25 minutes and they want to hold the nation to ransom for a number of months. Sir, the Government should be aware of one particular thing. They had been rubbing shoulders with the Communist Party of India during the time of elections. Now they are reaping what they had sown themselves.

Now, before the Government of India makes up its mind over rice takeover or this and that, I must make my position and the position of my party very clear. We are second to none in so far as condemning blackmarketeers, hoarders and other anti-social elements are concerned. But the Government of India should know what good or bad has been done after the takeover of wheat. They should make a thorough study, not by their own Deputy Ministers and officials, but with impartial people, people without any political commitments, and experts. They must study whether good has been done or bad has been done. If good has been done, I have no objection if they takeover rice trade. But if bad has been done, then they must unequivocally and unhesitatingly make a statement that they are not going to takeover rice trade. This bold step must come from the Government side. I appeal to the hon. Members here on the treasury benches that they should impress upon Madam to make such an unequivocal statement.

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I only want to submit to you that Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, the senior-most Member, has, it seems, a monopoly to create chaos in the House always.

SHRI C. D. PANDE (Uttar Pradesh): In the country also.

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: and he is trying to hold the House to ransom. I think the time has come when you, Sir, as the custodian of this House, should put him in his proper place. After the takeover of wheat, if the Government feel that it has not been a success, they have every right to reconsider the question of rice takeover. If they have taken a decision—I do not know whether they have taken a decision—on the question of rice takeover, in the light of their experience in wheat takeover, there is nothing wrong. But I want to point out something else. Only last week, on the quantum of rice ration which the people of Kerala get, my friends of the CPI and CPI(M) created a hullabaloo and walked out of this House. Knowing full well that the rice crop is not as much as we can give to everybody in this country, if the Government has taken a decision, what right have they got to create this hullabaloo and chaos in the country? It is none of their business. They want to bring this country into chaos and the Government into chaos. The Government must see that their honeymoon with CPI is stopped. And the C.P.I. is out to blackmail them. Please beware of this. Otherwise, you will be in greater difficulty if you go on with this honeymoon.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Venigalla Satyanarayana ..

SHRI KRISHAN KANT (Haryana): Sir, I want to say a few things before he says ..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You cannot have a round of debate on it.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: Sir, many of the members of the Congress Party have been in favour of the takeover of wheat and rice and all foodgrains. There is no difference of opinion on this. But the point here is that we have to make the policy a success. Even as long back as in 1921, the Congress had brought out an economic policy to deal with the farmers. In order to make the policy a

success, it is necessary that we look into all these things. Mr Bhupesh Gupta and his party can rightly be agitated about the decision; I do not think the Government has announced any decision on rice take-over. Many of the hon. Members want it. It has not been done. They have not announced any policy in the House. If they have to protest, they could have slowly walked out today. But they should not say that till a decision is announced, we will not allow them to function. That attitude is not really a parliamentary democratic attitude and which they have shown today. If they want to really co-operate with the policy, there are other matters of cooperating than saying certain things. I do not share with them the way they have done, they have brought this House to ransom and brought to parliamentary democracy a bad name.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI OM MEHTA) : Sir, I want to say the same thing. But unfortunately my friends on the other side did not allow me to say. Without going into the merits or demerits of the case, I would like to say that on the 31st of August the Prime Minister had a meeting with the leaders of the Opposition where this matter was discussed for an hour and a half. When the leaders of the Opposition were not satisfied and wanted a further meeting, then the Prime Minister fixed another meeting for the 6th when the Food Minister would be there. And again this matter is going to be discussed with the Food Minister on the 6th. And whatever consensus or decision is reached there, the Government will try to implement it. I cannot say anything at this stage about the merits or the demerits of the case.

SIXTH REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON OFFICES OF PROFIT

SHRI VENIGAILA SATYANARAYANA (Andhra Pradesh) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Sixth Re-

port of the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit.

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Disruption in Train Services due to agitation by Railway Employees of Sholapur Division

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माबुर (राजस्थान) श्रीमान्, दक्षिण मध्य रेलवे के शोलापुर डिवीजन के रेल कर्मचारियों द्वारा आन्दोलन के कारण बम्बई और मद्रास के बीच तथा केरल और तमिल नाडु के भागा और मैसूर के बीच मादय तथा यात्री गाड़ियों के अवागमन में बाधा की और में रेल मंत्री का ध्यान आकषिप्त करता हूँ।

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD SHAFI QURESHI) : Sir Indian Railways were regrouped into six major integrated zones in 1952. In course of time South Eastern Railway was formed out of Eastern Railway, in 1955. There after, in 1958 the Northeast Frontier Railway was formed out of the North Eastern Railway. Thus to meet the growing needs of transport, some of the larger or outstretched zones had to be subdivided to make the zonal units organisationally more manageable. Any regrouping or reorganisation inevitably entails adjustments and accommodation of all components and constituents in the interest of operational administrative and economic compatibility and effectiveness.

The South Central Railway was formed mainly by combination of two divisions of Southern Railway and two divisions of Central Railway in 1966. From time to time, demands were pressed for the merger of Sholapur Division with Central Railway. This became more vociferous towards the middle of 1972 as local interests took an active part leading not only to relay fasts for about a week from 21st June, 1972 but also to occasional interference with train operations. Any reorganisation gives rise to problems of adjustment but the Government has been constantly reviewing the problems posed before them with a view to mitigate them to the extent possible. It was decided in 1972 that recruitment for Sholapur Division of South