REPORT OF THE REHABILITATION FINANCE ADMINISTRATION FOR THE HALF-YEAR ENDED THE 30TH JUNE 1956 THE MINISTER FOR REVENUE AND DEFENCE EXPENDITURE

(SHRI A. C. GUHA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of section 18 of the Rehabilitation Finance Administration Act, 1948 a copy of the Report of the Rehabilitation Finance Administration for the half-year ended the 30th June, 1956. [Placed in Library. See No. S-557/56.]

LAND ADMINISTRATION IN CANTONMENT AREAS—REVISION OF EXISTING RULES AND ORDERS

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR DEFENCE (SARDAR S. S. MAJI-THIA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a statement regarding Land Administration in Cantonment Areas—Revision of existing Rules and Orders. [Placed in Library. See No. S.574/56.]

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE UNIONPUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION FOR 1955-56 AND MEMORANDUM THEREON

THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers under clause (I) of article 323 of the Constitution:—

- Annual Report of the Union Public Service Commission for the period 1st April, 1955 to 31st March, 1956.
- (ii) Memorandum on the Annual Report of the Union Public Service Commission for 1955-56, explaining the reasons for nonacceptance of the Commission's advice in certain cases. [Placed in Library. See NO. S. 577/56 for (i) and 00.]

DECLARATIONS OF EXEMPTION UNDER REGISTRATION OF FOREIGNERS ACT, 1939

THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR): Sir, I also beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the

following Declarations of Exemption under the proviso to section 6 of the Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939:—

- (1) No. I/41/56-F.L, dated the 10th August, 1956 (3 Declarations)
- (2) No. 1/44/56-F.L, dated the 26th September, 1956 (3 Declarations)
- (3) No. I/46/56-F.L, dated the 26th September, 1956 (5 Declarations)
- (4) No. I/51/56-F.L, dated the 17th October, 1956 (1 Declaration)
- (5) No. I/53/56-F.L, dated the 30th October, 1956 (1 Declaration)
- (6) No. 15/72/56-F.L, dated the 1st November, 1956 (9 Declarations)
- (7) No. I/54/56-F.L, dated the 6th November, 1956 (1 Declarations)
- (8) No. 1/56/56 F.I., dated the 10th November, 1956 (2 Declarations)
- (9) No. I/57/56-F.L, dated the 9th November, 1956 (1 Declaration)
- (10). No. I/63/56-F.L, dated the 28th November, 1956 (1 Declaration). [Placed in Library, See No. S. 573/56 for (1) to (10).] ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON VARIOUS ASSURANCES PROMISES AND UNDERTAKINGS

THE MINISTER FOR PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SAT-YANARAN SINHA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the following statements showing the action taken by the Government on the various assurances, promises and undertakings given during the sessions shown against each:—

- (i) Statement No. I—Fifteenth Session, 1956.
- (ii) Statement No. IV—Fourteenth Session, 1956.
- (iii) Statement No. VI—Thirteenth Session, 1956.
- (iv) Statement No. VII—Twelfth Session. 1956.
- (v) Statement No. LX—Eleventh Session, 1955.

- (vi) Statement No. XII—Tenth Session, 1955.
- (vii) Statement No. XV—Ninth Session, 1955.
- (viii) Statement No. XIII—Eighth Session, 1954.
- (ix) Statement No. XXXI—Fifth Session, 1953.
- (x) Supplementary Statement No. XXIX—Fourth Session, 1953.

[See Appendix XV, Annexures Nos. 83 to 92 for (i) to (x).]

THE SUPPRESSION OF IMMORAL TRAFFIC IN WOMEN AND GIRLSBILL, 1956—continued

THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR): Sir, vesterday, I had dealt with most of the points raised by the hon. Members except, one which was raised by my hon. friend, Shri Sapru. He contended—and there was a great force in his contention—that we were here having a departure from the ordinary principles under which the quantum of punishment is to be left entirely to the judges or to the courts. Now, Sir, various punishments have been laid down in various penal Acts, and the exact quantum of punishment is left to the judicial discretion of the courts. But here in this case it was considered advisable that a minimum punishment to be given, after the courts come to the conclusion that the accused has been guilty, should be laid down. So far as the principal question dealing with guilt or otherwise of the accused is concerned, that is a matter entirely left to the judges for their judicial consideration. But ultimately it was found proper that inasmuch as this was one of the most serious offences against the society, some sterner measure should be devised for the purpose of checking prostitution and for the purpose of checking the various evils arising out of prostitution, and for that purpose, Sir, a minimum punishment has been provided. Although I would agree that his objection is ordinarily valid because the question of the quantum of punishment should ordinarily be left to the judges or to the courts to dtcide, yet in this particular case, on account of the special purpose for which this Bill is going to be passed into law, it was considered that some sterner measure and some deterrent measure was necessary, and in such a case it would be better for the Legislature or for Parliament to lay down the minimum punishment. That is the reason why, Sir, we have gone out of our way and have laid down a minimum punishment when this question arises after the judge has come to the conclusion that the accused has committed a particular offence. Sir, I had answered all other points yesterday.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide in pursuance of the International Contention signed at New York on the 9th day of May, 1950, for the suppression of immoral traffic in women and girls, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI CHANDRAVATI LAK-HANPAL (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I would like to ask one question from the hon. Minister. Supposing there is a prostitute who is carrying on her profession in a brothel for her own gain. Will any action be taken against her under the provisions of this Bill?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: Sir, it might be difficult to take any action against the prostitute who carries on prostitution wherever it might be, but action can be taken against others for abetment of prostitution which takes the form of a number of offences.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before we pass on to the clause by clause consideration of the Bill, I will ask Mr. Guha to make a siatement.

STATEMENT RE AGREEMENT BETWEEN GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AND ASSAM OIL COM-PANY REGARDING FORMATION OF A RUPEE COMPANY IN ASSAM.

THE MINISTER FOR REVENUE AND DEFENCE EXPENDITURE (SHRI A. C. Guha): Sir, with your permission, on behalf of Shri K. D.