

[Secretary.]

Sir, I lay the following Bills on the Table:

1. The Indian Income-tax (Amendment) Bill, 1953,
2. The Cinematograph (Amendment) Bill, 1952, and
3. The Indian Lighthouse (Amendment) Bill, 1952.

PETITIONS ON THE FACTORIES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1952

SECRETARY: Sir, I have to report to the Council that 392 petitions relating to the Factories (Amendment) Bill, 1952, introduced by Shri S. Guruswami in the Council of States on the 8th December 1952, have been received by me.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO JANAB M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHEB

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to inform hon. Members that the following letter has been received from Shri M. Muhammad Ismail:

"I have been preparing to go to certain Eastern countries and am now starting for Burma and Malaya tomorrow morning. I may be away for a few weeks. I request that the Council may kindly be pleased to excuse my absence and grant me leave for that period of my absence during the current session."

Is it the pleasure of the Council that permission be granted to Shri M. Muhammad Ismail for remaining absent from all the meetings of the Council from the 9th April 1953, till the end of the current session?

(No hon. Member dissented.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Permission to remain absent is granted.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR (West Bengal): Sir, I have to make a statement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: After the paper is laid on the Table.

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

REPORT OF THE EXPERT COMMITTEE (EXCISE)

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI M. C. SHAH): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report of the Expert Committee (Excise) constituted under Government of India letter No. 33 (20)-E.O./49 dated the 5th June 1950. [Placed in Library. See No. IV P.O. (25).]

STRIKE AT HINDUSTAN SHIP-YARD

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR (West Bengal): Sir, the other day there were references about the strike at the Hindustan Shipyard in both the Houses and the Prime Minister also made some statement the other day on the floor of the House. This morning I have received a telegram from Vizag to the effect that the workers there are asking for immediate reinstatement pending the decision of the Tribunal. The strike is continuing and there was complete hartal and a procession of 20,000 people went round. So, Sir, I would like to have some statement made by the Leader of the House or by any Government spokesman as regards the demands of the workers.

THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL (SHRI C. C. BISWAS): I did not have notice of this proposal and so I am not fully posted with the facts of the case. Beyond the statement which was made by the Prime Minister in the other House, I have no further statement to make at the present moment. If so desired, I may obtain further information and then enlighten the House about it.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: May I lay this on the Table, Sir?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes.

(The telegram was laid on the Table.)