

(b) Review by the Government working of the above Corporation.

(2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 49/17/19]

MOU between Government of India and BBJ and SIL

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIR AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES. (SHRI ARJUN RAMMEGHWAL): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Department of Heavy Industry, Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises) and the Braithwaite Burn and Jessop Construction Company Limited (BBJ), for the year 2019-20.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 90/17/19]

- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Department of Heavy Industry, Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises) and the Scooters India Limited (SIL), for the year 2019-20.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 89/17/19]

Report of the LAG

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN) : Sir, I, on behalf of Shri Anurag Singh Thakur, lay on the Table, under clause (1) of article 151 of the Constitution, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2018 - Union Government - Department of Revenue (Indirect Taxes - Central Excise and Service Tax) - Report No. 4 of 2019.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 78/17/19]

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Status of Implementation of the recommendation Contained in the Fifty-Eighth Report of Department-related Parliament Standing Committee on Finance

सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्री (श्री थावरचन्द गहलोत): महोदय, मैं श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण जी की ओर से राजस्व विभाग, वित्त मंत्रालय की अनुदान मांगों (2018-19) के संबंध में विभाग संबंधित

वित्त संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति के अठावनवें प्रतिवेदन में अंतर्विष्ट सिफारिशों के कार्यान्वयन की स्थिति के संबंध में एक वक्तव्य सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Zero Hour. Shri Jairam Ramesh. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN (West Bengal) : Sir, under Rule 267 ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have not admitted, I will come back to you after this.

श्री हुसैन दलवाई (महाराष्ट्र): *

श्री सभापति: नहीं, नहीं, without permission.*(Interruptions)*... Please, without permission, you can't raise like this. ...*(Interruptions)*... Husain Dalwaiji, this is not going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not the way. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have called Shri Jairam Ramesh. Please sit down. This is not the way. ...*(Interruptions)*... आपको हाथ जोड़ने की ज़रूरत नहीं है। रूल्स के साथ जुड़िए और अंडर रूल व्यवहार करिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Shri Jairam Ramesh.

Concern over accelerating rate of melting of the Himalayan Glaciers

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): Mr. Chairman, Sir, last week, we had a discussion on the twin crises of water shortage and climate change. My Zero Hour mention today is on the issue which connects the two, namely, the melting of the Himalayan glaciers. And, I am happy that the Minister concerned is amongst us here today. There are over 10,000 glaciers in the Indian side of the Himalayan ecosystem. Some glaciers like the Siachen may well be advancing while some others like the Gangotri glacier may be retreating but at a decelerating rate. But, it is beyond doubt that the overwhelming majority of the Himalayan glaciers are losing its ice. In recent days, Sir, —this is what prompts this Zero Hour submission—the media all over the world has headlined a study based on American spy satellite data which reveals that the rate of melting of numerous Himalayan glaciers has doubled during the past fifteen years as compared to the previous quarter of the previous century. This is a matter of great concern and has grave implications for water flow in the Himalayan river system. I have three specific suggestions to make to the Government in this regard. First, the National Institute of Himalayan Glaciology set up some years ago in Dehra Dun should be substantially strengthened and declared as an institution of national importance, if necessary, by an Act of Parliament. Second, India must initiate cooperation programmes in glaciology with all other countries in the Himalayan ecosystem for better understanding and monitoring of glacial dynamics. Domestically, we must create a forum for Himalayan States to have a coordinated response. And, third,

*Not recorded