14th February 1921]

A.—Information called for from the Collectors about election expenditure has been received only from some districts till now. As soon as complete information is available a statement of the expenditure will be furnished to the Member.

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" With reference to the answers given to questions 20 and 21, may I know if the Hon'ble Member for Finance will forward the statements required therein only to the questioning Member, or will he place them on the Council table, or will he furnish copies to other members of the Council."

The Hon'ble Mr. C. G. TODHUNTER :—" I have no objection whatever to place the statements on the table."

Local Government loan in 1921-22.

22 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO : " To ask the Hon'ble the Member for Finance whether a loan by the Local Government is likely to be floated in 1921-22 and the amount of such a loan.

A.—The Government do not propose to float a loan in the open market in the year 1921-22. It is hoped however that a loan will be obtained from the Government of India, the details of which will appear in the Financial Statement to be published in the first week of March.

Appointment of Chairman, Ootacamund municipality.

23 *Q.*—Mr. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO : "To ask the Hon'ble the Minister for Local Self-Government to state whether the Government had made any proposals to the Ootacamund Municipal Council to forego the privilege of electing its Chairman on condition of the Government paying Rs. 1,000 per mensem as the salary of the Chairman to be appointed by the Government and whether the proposal has been finally sanctioned and to lay the whole correspondence on the table.

A.—The answer is in the affirmative. A copy of the correspondence is laid on the table.*

Mr. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO :—" Sir, I should like to know from the Minister for Local Self-Government whether it is proposed to continue the services of Mr. Handcock who has been the President of the Ootacamund Municipality for the last 12 years on the ground of his engineering experience."

The Hon'ble Mr. P. RAMARAYANINGAR :—" His service is to continue for the period he has been appointed. As to what will take place later, it is not yet decided. "

Mr. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO :—" May I know whether the proposed arrangement is exactly the same which the Council has been following for the last 12 years without the additional payment of Rs. 1,000 per mensem."

The Hon'ble Mr. P. RAMARAYANINGAR :—" Only one supplementary question to elicit explanation to the answer to a question can be asked "

Mr. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO :—" It is for the President to decide it "

The Hon'ble the PRESIDENT :—" Probably the Hon'ble Minister wants notice of the question."

The Hon'ble Mr. P. RAMARAYANINGAR :—" It is assuming the form of a discussion."

* Vide Appendix III on pages 42-45 infra.