

565 *Statements by Ministers* CHAITRA 17, 1914 (SAKA) and a goods train on 566
The rear end collision involving 423 Guntur Vijayawada section of
Bitragunta-Vijayawada passenger train South Central Rly

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch
at Thirty Six minutes past Fourteen of the
Clock

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

[English]

MR CHAIRMAN Now Shri Mallikarjun
to make a Statement

14.36 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

(1) **The Rear-End Collision Involving 423
Bitragunta-Vijayawada Passenger
Train and a Goods Train on Gudur-
Vijayawada Broad Gauge Section of
South Central Railway on 5th April,
1992**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-
LIKARJUN) It is with deep anguish that I
apprise the House of the unfortunate rear
end collision involving Train No 423 Bitra-
gunta Vijayawada Passenger train and a
goods train at about 21 10 hrs on the Gudur-
Vijayawada broad-gauge double line electri-
fied section on the Vijayawada Division of
South Central Railway The sequence of
events leading up to the disaster was as
follows The goods train which was detained
at the home signal of Tsundur station had
barely started from the signal towards the
station when the passenger train came from
the rear and collided against it Due to the
impact, the passenger train locomotive and
the first coach were smashed, the second
coach and four wagons of the goods train
derailed, blocking both up and down lines
As a result of the collision 9 persons lost their
lives and 20 sustained injuries of whom 3
suffered grievous injuries The driver and
Assistant Driver of the ill-fated passenger
train are among the dead

Immediately on receipt of information
about the accident medical relief vans from
Vijayawada and Bitragunta with doctors and
divisional officers were rushed to the site
The General Manager, South Central Rail-
way alongwith the Heads of Departments
also proceeded to the site of accident to
supervise rescue and relief operations Local
Civil and police officers also attended the
accident site

The Member Traffic and the Member
Electrical, Railway Board rushed to the site
by Special Airforce Plane to oversee relief
operations

The Commissioner of Railway Safety,
South Central Circle, will be holding a statu-
tory inquiry into this accident from 10 04 1992

Ex-gratia payment to the next of kin of
the dead and to the injured is being ar-
ranged This will be in addition to the com-
pensation payable to the next of kin of the
deceased and to the injured under the Rail-
way Accidents Compensation Rules, 1990
The amount of compensation payable in the
case of death and injuries which deprive a
person of all capacity to do any work is Rs 2
laks For other injuries, the amount varies
from Rs 2 16,000 to Rs 1,80,000

Shri C K Jaffer Sharief, all railway
workers and I extend our heart felt condo-
lences to the relatives of the persons who
lost their lives in this tragic accident and
sincere sympathies to the injured

I trust the House will join in extending
heart-felt condolences to the bereaved
families