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Fire in Engine Room of Indian freighter 'Chennai Jayam'

9225. SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a fire broke out in the engine room of the Indian freighter 'Chennai Jayam' anchored in Augusta (Sicily) for a fuelling stop in the 2nd week of April, 1975;

(b) the number and names of persons who died and injured as a result thereof;

(c) the full facts of the accident and whether the causes of the fire have since been investigated; and

(d) the total loss caused to the ship and whether any compensation has since been paid to the victims and if so, an account thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI): (a) Yes, Sir. A fire accident took place on board the ship m.v. 'Chennai Jayam' at Augusta on 12th April, 1975.

(b) As a result of the fire, fifth engineer Shri Ravi Ram Chagan—lost his life and fourth engineer—Shri T. K. Biswas—got severe burns. He is progressing satisfactorily.

(c) Full details of the accident are not yet available. However, from the reports received so far, it appears that whilst bunkering the ship, overflow of heavy oil on TVO, the working generator, caused the fire.

(d) Considerable damage has been done to electrical wiring, machinery, generator etc. of the ship.

The legal heirs of Shri Ravi Ram are entitled to the following compensation:—

Compensation;	Rs. 35,520.00
Other amounts;	Rs. 3,275.10

They have been requested to arrange to obtain succession certificate in their favour, and payment will be made shortly.

Retirement of a Major-General of Indian Army

9226. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention is drawn to a news item in Hindustan Times, dated the 12th April, 1975 that a Major-General in the Indian Army has recently been reverted to Brigadier's rank and has been advised to retire; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SWARAN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir; the news item appeared in the Hindustan Times dated the 9th April, 1975 (and NOT the 12th April 1975).

(b) The news being incorrect, a denial was published in the Hindustan Times dated the 10th April, 1975.

Visakhapatnam Project

9227. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have realised that the amount of Rs. 500/- agreed to be given for the rehabilitation of each family, which will be displaced under the proposed Visakhapatnam steel project, is very meagre under the present conditions and thus does not meet in any way the desired purpose;