

Title: Request the Government to provide Rs. 10 lakh compensation to the family of Late Shri C. Neelakanthan, a driver for his timely help in avoiding the fire accident at M/s Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited and also to order a high-level inquiry to fix the responsibilities.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI : Sir, there is a very grave situation in my constituency of Visakhapatnam. M/s. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited had, two years back, seen a ghastly incidence of fire in their premises where more than 65 people have lost their lives. There were again two fire accidents on 17th and 18th of this month. M/s. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited is located in a densely populated locality. In the recent incident, one driver, Shri C. Neelakanthan, without caring for his life has rendered timely help. The fire accident occurred when the truck was being loaded. Immediately, showing presence of mind, the driver took away the truck and in that incident he lost his precious life. Had he left the truck there got away, he would have saved his life. But he had cared for the property and the installations worth several crores of rupees which would have otherwise been lost. He also saved several lives which would have otherwise been lost in the incident.

I would appeal to the Government, through you, and to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas to appropriately help the family of late Shri C. Neelakanthan by at least Rs. 10 lakh immediately and also provide some job to a member of his family. Because of his bravery, the worst situation has been avoided and the all the installations were saved.

On 18th of this month, there was a fire again at the crude oil distillation site. There is no maintenance facility there. It could have been a totally disastrous situation.

I request and appeal to the Government to order a thorough and high-level enquiry to find out as to who are responsible for such incidents and prosecute and take action against them.

MR. SPEAKER : Some Members do not understand other's difficulties. 'Zero hour' is for speaking for one or two minutes only.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI : Sir, if the above action is not taken, many people will lose their lives. Thank you.