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Title: The Speaker made reference regarding calamities occurred and loss of lives due to heavy rainfall in Mumbai since 26 July, 2005 and fire in Mumbai High field area on 27 July, 2005.

MR. SPEAKER: As the hon. Members are aware, the highest recorded rainfall in three decades in Mumbai has reportedly resulted in about hundred and eight deaths including children, since 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2005. The incessant rains have caused landslides, water and power cuts, food shortage and erratic communication links. Mumbai became inaccessible due to flooding of highways, closure of airports besides disruption of train services.

On 27<sup>th</sup> July, 2005, a shipping vessel collided with a drilling platform in the Mumbai High field area as a result of which the platform caught fire. It reportedly resulted in about eight deaths. Due to the commendable and timely rescue and relief operations by the authorities concerned, over three hundred and fifty lives were saved. Many are still reported to be missing. The economic losses due to the explosion are immense.

The House expresses its deep anguish over the calamities which prevailed upon the city of Mumbai and in Mumbai High. We wish to express our deep sense of condolence to the members of the bereaved families.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the departed.

**11.01 hrs.**

*The Members then stood in silence for a short while.*

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MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have received a notice from the hon. Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas. He will make a statement at 12 noon today. Both the hon. Prime Minister and the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas are going to the place. Therefore, we shall wait for that statement and we can later on have

proper discussion on that if you so want.