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Title: Need to expedite the process of giving compensation to the victims of Railway accidents.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (BANGALORE SOUTH): Thank you, Madam.

Unfortunately, there has been a tragic accident of Hampi Express in the wee hours, at 3 o'clock today.

श्री शैलेन्द्र कुमार (कोशाम्बी): महोदया, मैंने भी कार्य स्थगन का नोटिस दिया है।

अध्यक्ष महोदया : आप अपने को उससे सम्बद्ध कर लीजिये। आप अपने को एसोसिएट कर लीजिये।

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Already 15 people have lost their lives, and the casualty may increase. Many people have got injured. The Railway Ministry has already announced compensation. My only request is this – whenever such accidents happen, for more than 3-6 months, the victims and their families do not get the relief and compensation. Therefore, I urge the Government of India and the Railway Ministry that compensation should be disbursed immediately. I have already been informed that one Minister of State for Railways and the Minister of Railways have rushed to the spot.

I also urge, through you, Madam, the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs that the Railway Minister should come to the House and make a statement. There are two Ministers of State for Railways. The MoS for Railways who is in Delhi should get the information about the relief and compensation as also other relief measures that they are taking in this regard, and he should make a statement in the House.

I want to raise one more issue. There are serious question marks about the safety standards. We have been requesting the Railway Ministry through various debates that safety standards should be enhanced. That can be done only by three measures – one is, automatic signalling, second is, doubling the lines and third is, providing collision avoidance system.

TCAS is the instrument. Every time they say that they are installing TCAS in all the trains. There are only 18,000 passenger trains moving per day but unfortunately the installation has not been completed on a time-bound manner. Therefore, though it is a very-very sad and tragic occasion, there are three aspects to it. One is providing immediate relief and compensation; secondly, rehabilitating all the victims' families by providing one employment in either Railways or Government of India services and thirdly, taking corrective measures in the safety system of the Railways not only in one zone but across the country both in rolling-stock as well as the signalling and communication systems. Thank you, Madam....(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: You can associate yourselves with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: The following Members may be allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri Ananth Kumar:

Dr. Ram Chandra Dome

Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal

Shri Kamal Kishor 'Commando'

Shri Pralhad Joshi

Shri P.L. Punia

Shri Shivkumar Udasi

Shri Shivarama Gouda

Shri R. Dhruvanarayana

Shri Praveen Singh Aron