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title: The Minister of Railways made a statement regarding accident of Train No. 19321 Dn. Indore-Rajendra Nagar Terminal (Patna) Express between Pokhrayan and Malasa stations of Jhansi Division of North Central Railway on 20.11.2016.

HON. SPEAKER: Now, Statement by Rail Minister about the accident.

...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Do you not want to hear the statement about the accident?

...(Interruptions)

12.03 ½ hours

(At this stage, Shri Kanti Lal Bhuria, Shri Kalyan Banerjee, Shri N.K. Premachandran and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): Madam, with profound grief, I inform the House of an unfortunate accident of Train No. 19321, Indore-Rajendra Nagar Terminal, (Patna Express) between Pokhrayan and Malasa stations on Jhansi – Kanpur section of North Central Railway at 3.04 hours on 20th November, 2016. ...(Interruptions) Fourteen coaches of the train derailed between Pokhrayan and Malasa stations. Three out of these coaches capsized. ...(Interruptions)

As per available information, till now 133 passengers lost their lives, 58 passengers sustained grievous injuries and 122 passengers sustained simple injuries in this most unfortunate incident. ...(Interruptions)

Immediate efforts were made to provide relief and rescue. Local ambulances were rushed to the site and the injured passengers shifted to nearby hospitals. ...(Interruptions) Railways medical vans from Kanpur and Jhansi were moved to the accident site. The General Manager and Chief Safety Officer, North

Central Railway rushed to the site immediately to supervise the relief and restoration works. ...(Interruptions) NATIONAL DISASTER RESPONSE FORCE (NDRF) team and Army Battalions also reached the site for rescue and relief operations. The Minister of State for Railways, Shri Manoj Sinha, Member, Rolling Stock, and Member, Engineering also rushed to the site. ...(Interruptions) I, along with the Chairman, Railway Board, visited the site of accident and met the injured passengers admitted in the hospital.

On humanitarian grounds, an enhanced ex-gratia amount of Rs. 3.5 lakh each to the next of kin of the deceased, Rs. 50,000 for the grievously injured, and Rs. 25,000 to passengers who sustained simple injuries, is being paid. The hon. PM has also announced additional ex-gratia payment of Rs. 2 lakh to the kin of the dead and Rs. 50,000 for each of the injured passengers. ...(Interruptions)

A statutory inquiry by the Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS) into this accident has been ordered to determine the correct cause of the accident. There shall be a separate comprehensive investigation aided by latest technical and forensic analysis by an appropriate agency to look into all possible angles. â€¦ (Interruptions) The strictest possible action would be taken against the guilty.

All stranded passengers have been moved to the destination by a special train from Malasa station. Adequate help and assistance was provided to the stranded passengers....(Interruptions)

Old-technology ICF coaches already in operation lack the crash-worthy characteristics of modern coaches. I had informed this House during the previous Railway Budget to progressively replace and phase out such coaches. This will be expedited....(Interruptions)

On behalf of the Railways and myself, I express deep condolences to the bereaved families and also express sincere sympathies to the injured. I trust the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families. [Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5344/6/16]

...(Interruptions)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : सॉरी, स्टेट ऑफ अफेयर्स है कि एक्सीडेंट के बाद भी आप नहीं सुनना चाहेंगे। This is really very sorry.

...(Interruptions)

