

an>

Title: Need to convert all the unmanned railway level crossings to manned railway level crossings in the country.

SHRI B. SRIRAMULU (BELLARY) : Madam Speaker, "The Supreme Court on Friday (7 August 2015) slammed railways for the unmanned railway crossings which take a heavy toll of human lives and asked the government why it was introducing new trains without first ensuring the safety of the people.

A social justice bench of Justices Madan B Lokur and U U Lalit said the Law enacted in 1989 for doing away with unmanned level crossings has not been implemented by the railways to give a road map for manning such crossings.

"Why do you bring more trains when you cannot protect the lives of people? Human life cannot be treated so cheaply. Safety is very important and you must take it seriously," the bench said".

Speaker Madam/Sir, this is the observation made by Honourable Supreme Court published in Times of India dated 8 August 2015.

On 24 August 2015 early hours, a granite loaded lorry rammed into 16594 Bangalore Purabhani (Nanded Express) at an unmanned Railway level crossing near Panagonda in Anantapur district in Andhra Pradesh (South Central Railway). The lorry rammed into HA 1 coach killing 6 people in the coach. 3 coaches were off the rake. Mr. Venkatesh Naik who represented Raichur Lok Sabha Constituency for 4 times and also sitting MLA from Devadurga Assembly constituency who was travelling in this ill-fated train was crushed to death along with 5 other passengers.

Madam/Sir, there are 30,348 Railway Level Crossings in the country(as on today) in which 18, 785 are manned and 11,563 are unmanned that is responsible for 43 percent and 57 percent accidents respectively.

I suggest Railway Minister to man all unmanned rail level crossings on priority basis and also fix sensors on the track to a length of 100 meters on both directions of Railway track in all level crossings both manned and unmanned by using solar energy.

Human life cannot be treated so cheaply. Safety is very important and I request you to take it seriously.

Thank you Madam for giving me this opportunity. Thank you.

**माननीय अध्यक्ष :** श्री भैरों प्रसाद मिश्र को श्री बी. श्रीरामलू द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ संबद्ध करने की अनुमति प्रदान की जाती है।