

State, I am led to believe that in Kaveri there will be water all the time. The Chief Minister of Karnataka is in high sounding words stated that he would not close the K.R. Sagar dam. He is prepared to give water to the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister as and when he wanted. Therefore there will be no scarcity of water in Kaveri. In Palar river also there is no water now, I hope the Hon. Chief Minister of Karnataka will show the same gesture and release water from Peththamangalam lake in Karnataka. Both the Chief Ministers have thus I hope brought a situation in which there will be no dry river in Tamil Nadu. Kaveri and Palar rivers would be swelling with water all the time. I therefore think there would not be any need to appoint a tribunal to adjudicate the water dispute between the two States. The Chief Ministers have come together in a cordial manner to ensure water in both the rivers which I think will flow like honey and milk.

16.10 hrs.

STATEMENT RE ACCIDENTS INVOLVING 3—UP NAINPUR HOWBAGH JABALPUR NARROW GAUGE PASSENGER, TRAIN AND 413—UP MOKANAPATNA PASSENGER AND 328 DOWN DANAPUR-HOWRAH FAST PASSENGER TRAINS ON 26.2.1989.

[*Translation*]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): I deeply regret to apprise the House of an unfortunate accident to train No. 3 UP Nainpur-Howbagh-Jabalpur Passenger at about 15.30 hrs. on 26.2.1989 on the Nainpur-Jabalpur Narrow Gauge single line non-controlled section of Nagpur Division of South Eastern Railway. While this train with 8 coaches was on run between Shikara and Sukrimangela stations, 5 coaches next to train engine derailed of which, 3 coaches 2nd, 3rd and 4th capsized at Km. 1180/2-4. As a result of this derailment, 24 passengers lost their lives and 90

passengers sustained injuries out of which 38 were grievous as per the available information.

Immediately on receipt of information about the accident, Medical Relief Van from Jabalpur with Medical Suptd., and Doctors was rushed to the site. Divisional Railway Manager, Jabalpur and divisional railway Manager, Nagpur alongwith their officer immediately left for the site of accident. Local Civil and Police officials also reached the accident spot.

General Manager, South Eastern Railway accompanied by other senior officers left from Howrah to oversee the relief arrangements.

Mr Senior Colleague, Shri Madhavrao Scindia who was at Gwalior has proceeded to the site from Gwalior by a Special plane arranged from Delhi. Member Traffic and Member Mechanical, Railway Board are also accompanying him.

Ex-gratia relief to the next of the kin of the identified dead and to those with grievous and simple injuries is being arranged. This will be in addition to the compensation payable to the injured and to the next of kin of the deceased by the Ad-hoc Claims Commissioner to be nominated by the Madhya Pradesh Government.

Commissioner of Railway Safety, Western Circle under the Ministry of Civil Aviation & Tourism will commence statutory inquiry into this accident from 1.3.1989 at Howbagh.

I have to also inform the House with deep regret of another accident which took place on Danapur Division of Eastern Railway at about 13.05 hrs. on 26.2.1989. In this accident, while train No. 413 UP Mokama-Patna Passenger was on run between Barh and Athmal Gola stations, its rearmost coach, a second class-cum-luggage brakevan derailed at Km. 486/2 infringing the Down line. Just at that time No. 328 Down-Danapur-Howrah Fast Passenger

[Sh. Mahabir Prasad] was passing the site and collided with the derailed second class-cum-luggage brake van of No. 413 Up Passenger train. As a result, 4 passengers died and 3 suffered injuries. Divisional Railway Manager, Danapur accompanied by his officers and doctors rushed to the site and necessary medical assistance was rendered to the injured passengers.

Ex-gratia relief to the next of kin of the dead and to the injured is being arranged.

Commissioner of Railway Safety, Eastern Circle will be holding a statutory inquiry into this accident.

I and my senior Colleague Shri Madhavrao Scindia and all the railway men and women extend our deep condolences to the kith and kin of those who lost their lives and sincere sympathies to the injured in these two unfortunate accidents. I am sure that the House joins us in extending heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families.

16.14 hrs.

STATEMENT CLARIFYING CERTAIN
REMARKS MADE BY PRIME MINISTER
DURING QUESTION HOUR ON 27-2-
1989.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT): My Chairman, Sir, it is unfortunate that this morning, the opposition chose to walk out of this House on uncalled for grounds. While referring to the reported support of Khalistan by a leader of the opposition, the Prime Minister did not attack the entire opposition. In fact, he did mention and appreciate the role of several opposition parties in condemning and meeting the challenge of terrorism.

It seems that the opposition walk out was part of a politically motivated strategy.

I do hope that with this clarification the opposition Members will come back and join the proceedings of the House.

16.15 hrs.

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE
PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS—*Contd.*

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address moved by Hon. Gadgilji. Sir, the President's Address no doubt is a customary thing. On the opening day of the first session of the Parliament in a calendar year, he addresses both the Houses, but it is of a great significance. His Address essentially is an overview or the summing up of Government's performance and it also aims at giving advice to the nation as a Head of the nation.

Sir, in his Address the President has made a very comprehensive assessment of different spheres of the national activity. He has particularly dealt with the economical, political and foreign affair aspect.

The President has rightly referred to Nehruism. This being the Nehru centenary year, not only we in our country but throughout the world the countries are celebrating the Nehru centenary year. Not only we, the entire world is proud of a son like Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru. He is in fact one of the greatest sons of this country and of the entire world. We are really fortunate in having a stalwart like Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru as our first Prime Minister was a doer of deeds and a dreamer of dreams. He himself sacrificed enormously in the freedom movement. We are fortunate to have him as our first Prime Minister. After four decades of freedom, we cannot think for a moment as to what would have happened to India if we did not have a Prime Minister of his calibre or a