

SHRI CHITTA BASU : Had your Party been there, you would have welcomed it. I wish to set up your Party there also so that we get a good ally (*Interruptions*). I have dealt with the Sixth Five Year Plan.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Then our Party would become a State Party there in West Bengal. If you are prepared, you will have a copy of it.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : Yes, yes, provided Tirupattur is not repeated. You are welcome in this side and we welcome DMK with us to see that Madras or Tamil Nadu gets its legitimate share. (*Interruptions*) The Central Sector investment in West Bengal, has, therefore, never been commensurate with the actual need. Different factors plaguing the industry in West Bengal were not taken into account in such a Plan allocation.

Now I come to financial assistance aspect. All India financial assistance for industries in West Bengal up to end of March, 1980, was 91.21 only.

15.30 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MR. SPEAKER : Home Minister.

STATEMENT RE: TRAGIC DEATH OF 45 PERSONS AND INJURIES TO SEVERAL OTHERS AT THE QUTAB MINAR

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ZAIL SINGH) : Sir, with a heavy heart and a deep sense of sorrow I have to bring to

the notice of the House a terrible tragedy that took place at Qutab Minar between 11.30 a.m. and 12.00 noon today.

A large number of people, a majority of them being students from different parts of the country, were inside Qutab Minar when a sudden power breakdown resulted in confusion and stampede. Police, fire and ambulance services were immediately pressed into service. The injured persons were immediately rushed to the Hospitals. On examination in the Hospitals, 45 were declared dead. Twenty-one injured have been admitted to the Hospitals and are being given necessary medical attention.

The Prime Minister, myself, Lt. Governor, Delhi and senior officials of Delhi Administration visited the Hospitals. The family of each of the deceased is being given Rs. 5000/- from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund. Rs. 2,000/- are being given to each of those injured. Equal amounts are being given by Delhi Administration.

A judicial inquiry into the incident has been ordered.

Our hearts go out to the bereaved families in this hour of tragedy. We will convey the anguish of this House to them.

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, it is a tragic day. We all are stunned and we are very much grieved to know of this tragedy. We will convey to the families of the bereaved the heart-felt condolences of the House....

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Of all the Parties.

MR. SPEAKER : Of all the Parties. It is a thing on which even a stone will melt. In this context

[Mr. Speaker]

I will rather advise that we adjourn, after standing in silence for a short while, as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

(The Members then stood in silence for a short while)

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned till 11.00 a.m. on Monday, the 7th December, 1981.

15.33 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, December, 7, 1981/Agrahayana, 16, 1903 (Saka)
