

[Shri Kedar Pandey]

On 8-8-1981, Kota Special Goods which passed Rupbas station at 21.55 hours was divided between Rupbas and Bansi Paharpur stations as the engine was unable to pull the load. The driver brought the front divided portion to Bansi Paharpur at 22.25 hours. Thereafter, the engine left for the site to bring the rear divided portion. In the meantime, the rear divided portion started rolling back and after passing through Rupbas station, collided with 82 Up Passenger which had left Fatehpur Sikri.

In this accident, 5 persons were killed and 6 sustained grievous injuries. In addition, 39 persons sustained simple injuries.

The cause of the accident is under investigation by the Commissioner of Railway Safety, Bombay.

Ex-gratia relief has been given to next of kin of the dead and to the injured in all these cases.

Compensation under the Railway Accident (Compensation) Rules, 1950 will be paid as awarded by the *Ad hoc* Claims Commissioner/Ex-Officio Claims Commissioners. For the accident on North Eastern Railway the Bihar Government has been requested to nominate a High Court Judge to act as *Ad hoc* Claims Commissioner. Recommendations for appointment of *Ad hoc* Claims Commissioners for the other two major accidents are awaited.

14.36 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. INDIA'S DISCUSSIONS FOR DRAWINGS FROM INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): Mr. Speaker, the question of India drawing on the resources of the International Monetary Fund has generated

widespread interest in the country. I would, therefore, like to inform the House of the present position of this matter.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) was set up to promote international monetary cooperation, to facilitate the expansion and balanced growth of international trade, to promote exchange stability, to make available the general resources of the Fund on a temporary basis under adequate safeguards to enable member countries to correct maladjustments in their balance of payments. In the pursuit of these objectives the IMF extends loans to its members which have a balance of payments problem and require temporary assistance to make appropriate adjustments. As a member of the Fund, India has been taking advantage of the various Fund facilities from time to time whenever the need for balance of payments adjustments had made it necessary.

Hon'ble Members are aware that as a result of the increase in oil prices over the past two years, our balance of payments position has come under a heavy strain. Besides, unavoidable imports of crude oil and petroleum products, we have to import necessary machinery and equipment for the Sixth Plan, which envisages a massive investment in the infrastructure and industry. Large amounts of foreign exchange are required for this purpose. To meet the balance of payments situation, we are making concerted efforts to increase exports and also raise production in industries where we have comparative advantage. Hon. Members are aware that the Sixth Five Year Plan envisages an investment of Rs. 97,500 crores in the public sector. This investment outlay is to be financed through domestic savings and net inflow of large amounts of external resources. Efforts are being made to raise necessary External resources by maximising assistance from bilateral and multi-lateral institutions and also by resorting to borrowing in the capital markets abroad. In the last year we

have contracted loans aggregating Rs. 783 crores (equivalent to \$ 983 million). With a view to meet the balance of payments problems arising out of the doubling of the oil prices in last two years, while the necessary adjustment programme is under way, we are discussing with the IMF Management the possibility of drawing an amount equivalent to SDRs 5 billion.

Apprehensions have been expressed in certain quarters regarding IMF conditionality. I would like to assure the Hon. Members that Government will not do anything which would be derogatory to nation's self-respect or to national interests.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Does that include devaluation?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Discussions for the loan are still in progress. Hon'ble Members will, therefore, appreciate that it would not be appropriate to discuss further details at present. I propose to make a further Statement in this behalf after the arrangements are finalised.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It was a *suo motu* statement. No discussion; no clarification. I am not permitting.

(Interruptions)

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): On a point of order

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What is that?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: The hon. Minister is known for his sobriety and reasonableness. All that the House would like him to do is to take the House into confidence and lay it before the House before it is concluded; he should tell us what are the secret clauses that are there....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He has said that the statement is not complete; there will be another statement.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL (Jaipur): Under no circumstances, should devaluation be accepted by the Government of India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No, matters under rule 377.

14.42 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) DEMAND FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SLUM AREAS CLEARANCE SCHEME IN PATNA.

श्री -रामाक्षर शास्त्री (पटना): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं नियम 377 के अर्धीन निम्नलिखित लोक महत्व के विषय की ओर सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करता हूँ :—

“निर्माण और आवास मंत्रालय प्रत्येक वर्ष राज्य सरकारों को बड़े-छोटे नगरों में गंदी बस्ती सफाई योजना की क्रियान्विति के नाम पर करोड़ों रूपयों का अनुदान देता है। कुछ राज्यों की राजधानियों में इस काम को पूरा करने के लिए भारत सरकार पूरा का पूरा खर्च बरदाश्त करती है, पर रकम नगर निगमों को नहीं देकर राज्य सरकारों को दी जाती है। परन्तु कुछ है कि राज्य सरकारें इस मद में दी गयी पूरी राशि गंदी बस्तियों के विकास पर खर्च नहीं कर दूसरे कामों पर खर्च कर देती हैं जिसके कारण गंदी बस्तियों का उद्धार नहीं हो पाता।

बिहार की राजधानी पटना भी उन शहरों में शामिल है जहाँ गंदी बस्ती सफाई योजना की क्रियान्विति के लिए सारा व्यय भारत सरकार देती है। फिर भी, पटना नगर दुनिया का सबसे अधिक गंदा शहर है। कहते हैं कि गुप्त नाले-नालियों पर के विकास पर बिहार सरकार धन तक करीब दस करोड़ रुपये खर्च कर चुकी है, फिर भी शहर का गंदा पानी नहीं निकल पाता। बरसात के दिनों में तो प्रायः सम्पूर्ण शहर में बाढ़ का दृश्य पैदा हो जाता