

Bombay Central.
Virar Sector (S.T.)

(2) Minutes of sittings of the Committee relating to the above Report

Virar section (St.)

families of the victims of this accident.

Immediately on receipt of the information, Medical Relief Vans were rushed to the site from Bombay Central and Valsad stations. After rendering medical aid to the injured at the site, they were removed to various hospitals.

The General Manager accompanied by other Heads of Departments rushed to the site

Minister for Railways, accompanied by Member Traffic, Railway Board has flown to the site of accident.

Ex-gratia payment to the next of kin of the dead and to the injured has been arranged.

The Additional Commissioner of Railway Safety, Western Circle, Bombay, will hold his statutory inquiry into this accident

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

SECOND REPORT

श्री मधुसूदन प्रसाद (सोवान) . में
सरकारी आशवासनो संबंधी समिति का
दूसरा प्रतिवेदन प्रस्तुत करता हू ।

12.36 hrs.

STATEMENT re RAILWAY ACCIDENT ON BOMBAY CENTRAL—VIRAR SECTION OF WESTERN RAILWAY ON 18-4-1978

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): Sir, I regret very much to inform the House that at about 20 07 hours on 18-4-1978, while 537 Down Churchgate-Virar EMU local train was waiting at gate signal of level crossing gate No 36 'B' situated between Naigaon and Vasal Road stations on Bombay Central—Virar main line automatic double line electrified section on Bombay Division of Western Railway, 7 Down Bombay-Ahmedabad Janata Express came from behind and collided into its rear, resulting in the derailment and telescoping of the two rearmost coaches of the local train.

According to the information so far available, 30 persons have lost their lives and another 60 injured. This House will join me in conveying our heartfelt sympathies to the bereaved

12.40 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): I move the following

"That this House do agree with the Fifteenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 18th April, 1978."

MR SPEAKER: Motion Moved:

"That this House do agree with the Fifteenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 18th April, 1978 "

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Chirayinkil) Sir, will you provide dinner when we have to sit so late?

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH (Hoshangabad): Sir, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs....

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Sir, is he discussing the report of the BAC?

MR. SPEAKER: He has given notice. You know, he always raises legal objection.

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH: Sir, I have given notice.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: He cannot discuss the BAC report.

MR. SPEAKER: He is raising a point of order. We are not discussing it.

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH: I shall try to be brief, concise and precise. First, I am glad the suggestion which I made yesterday that the House may sit up to 7 O'clock has been accepted by the Committee. Secondly, I find from para 3 of the Report that the recommendation is that the House may sit till 7 p.m. on Wednesday, the 19th, Monday, the 24th and Tuesday, the 25th, meaning thereby that on Wednesday, the 26th the House may sit only till, as scheduled, 6 O'clock. I hope you will agree in your judicial wisdom, seated under that luminous canopy....

MR. SPEAKER: Light is luminous; not I.

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH.you will agree that there is no sanctity about the time, 6 O'clock. I invite your attention to rule 219.

MR. SPEAKER: We thought we had accepted your suggestion.

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH: The original rule fixed it at 17.00 hours. That you have changed to 18.00 hours. So, there is nothing sacrosanct about the time. Therefore, I recommend, I suggest, I move

that on the last date—as you yourself in this Report have hinted—to save the Home Ministry from your deadly, ultimate weapon of the guillotine, that we must sit as long as necessary to complete the eight hours fixed for discussion for the Home Ministry's Demands.

MR. SPEAKER: The House is sovereign. Even at that time the House can decide. For the present, we need not go into it.

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH: I also want to point out that the Home Ministry's Annual Report has not come so far, nor has the Shah Commission's Interim Report been placed on the Table of the House so far—a matter which I raised in the House a few days ago. Without these two reports, the Annual Report of the Home Ministry and the Shah Commission's Interim Report, a useful, helpful and profitable discussion of the Home Ministry's Demands would not be possible. So, you may kindly request or direct the Government ...

MR. SPEAKER: I am sure the hon. Minister has taken note.

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH: I request the hon. Minister to say whatever he thinks fit on the subject. Mum is the word, is it? *Mauram pandita lakshanam?*

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Fifteenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 18th April, 1978."

The motion was adopted.