

12. Shrimati Sarla Bhadauria.

13. Shri C. L. Varma.

14. Shri Niranjan Varma.

15. Shri Tirath Ram Amla.

and 30 members from the Lok Sabha.

That in order to constitute a meeting of the Joint Committee the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of members of the Joint Committee;

That in other respects, the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to Select Committees shall apply with such variations and modifications as the Chairman may make;

That the Committee shall make a report to this House by the 31st August 1968; and

That this House recommends to the Lok Sabha that the Lok Sabha do join in the said Joint Committee and communicate to this House the names of members to be appointed by the Lok Sabha to the Joint Committee."

(ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Delhi and Ajmer Rent Control (Nasirabad Cantonment Repeal) Bill, 1968, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 13th February, 1968.

DELHI AND AJMER RENT CONTROL (NASIRABAD CANTONMENT REPEAL) BILL

AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA

Sir, I lay on the Table of the House the Delhi and Ajmer Rent Control (Nasirabad Cantonment Repeal) Bill, 1968.

12.44 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. ACCIDENT AT LUCKEESARAI STATION

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): Sir, it is with profound regret that I rise to make a statement on an unfortunate incident in which some persons were run over by train No. 12 Down Delhi-Howrah Express at Luckeesarai Station at about 22.12 hours last night, that is, 14-2-1968.

Due to Magh Poonnima, pilgrims had gathered at various points along the Ganga to take bath. The Eastern Railway had arranged to run the following Mela specials for the benefit of the pilgrims:—

- (1) From Danapur to Dildarnagar
- (2) From Patna to Jahanabad.
- (3) From Barauni to Semaria.
- (4) From Danapur to Arrah.
- (5) From KiuI to Sheikhpura.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): Sir, What is this?

MR. SPEAKER: Statement about railway accident.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Where?

MR. SPEAKER: He is telling that.

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: While the Mela special from KiuI to Sheikhpura Station was coming to Luckeesarai where it reached at 22.14 hours, a lot of people from the down side rushed across the down main line to reach the Mela special coming on the up line. Meanwhile No. 12 Down Delhi-Howrah Express ran through Luckeesarai at 22.12 hours. In this process 29 persons were run over by the Delhi-Howrah Express of whom 13 persons on the spot and 3 died subsequently in the Luckeesarai block hospital.

MR. SPEAKER: What is the total loss?

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: 13 persons died on the spot and three died subsequently in the Luckeesarai block hospital.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: When?

SOME HON MEMBERS: Last night

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: Another 13 persons were injured of whom 4 are suspected to have sustained serious injuries. 8 injured persons have been taken to the Railway Hospital by the Kiul Medical Relief van and 5 persons have been admitted in the Luckeesarai block hospital.

The Minister of State for Railways accompanied by Member (Engineering) and Director (Safety and Coaching) Railway Board has flown to the site of the accident.

Ex-gratia payment is being arranged to the next of kin of those who died and to the injured persons.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Sir, this is the second or third accident...

MR. SPEAKER: We are not going to discuss it now. It is an unfortunate accident in which so many people have lost their lives.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: The hon. Minister has not announced whether any inquiry is being conducted. Let there be a judicial inquiry. 13 men have lost their lives.

MR. SPEAKER: No, 16.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: This is horrible and still they do not call it a major accident.

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: The very fact that I have made a statement to bring this to the notice of the hon.

House shows that it is a serious accident. I am making a *suo motu* statement in this regard.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: You are making *suo motu* accidents also

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK (South Delhi): It is not a question of accident, it is a question of negligence. The train has run into the people. Therefore, there is all the more reason that there should be an inquiry into it.

MR. SPEAKER: We adjourn now and meet again at 2.30.

13.45 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till a Half past Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Thirty Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Vidya Charan Shukla.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE (Calcutta North East): Sir, before you proceed, I would like to refer to a matter which I was mentioning just when the Speaker rose before the recess and that was in relation to an adjournment motion of which many of us together had given notice in regard to the recent happenings in West Bengal....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Just a minute. Let a Bill be introduced and then I will give you an opportunity.