

and Kanpur with doctors were also rushed to the site. The General Manager, Northern Railway along with heads of departments also proceeded to the site to oversee the rescue and relief arrangements.

My colleague, Shri Mallikarjun proceeded to the site by a Special Air Force plane at 12.30 hours along with senior officers of the Railway Board and Northern Railway. He visited the injured who were admitted in the hospitals at Unnao and Lucknow.

Ex-gratia payment to the next of kin of the dead and the injured who have been identified is being arranged. In this case, the amount of ex-gratia has been doubled to Rs. 10,000 for the dead, Rs. 2,000 for grievous injury and Rs. 500 for simple injury. Compensation admissible to the next of kin of the unfortunate victims will be awarded by the Railway Claims Tribunal. The amount of compensation payable in the case of death and total disability is Rs. 2,00,000. For other injuries, the amount varies from Rs. 16,000 to Rs. 1,80,000. I am, however, painfully aware that no amount of money can compensate for the immense suffering caused.

The Commissioner of Railway Safety, Northern Circle, who also visited the site of accident will hold a Statutory Inquiry into this accident. It will commence on 7th August, 1991.

I have been deeply disturbed by this sad and tragic accident. The staff responsible for causing it will be severely dealt with. Four Railway staff including the driver of 1144 Chhapra-Gwalior Mail have been placed under suspension. I have also ordered a country-wide drive to monitor critical aspects of working, particularly, the performance of the staff involved in train running and train passing duties.

My colleague, Shri Mallikarjun, all railway workers and I extend our heartfelt condolences to the relatives of the persons who lost their lives in this unfortunate accident and sincere sympathies to the injured.

I trust the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families.

13.05 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) Need to connect Guntakal and Secunderabad by broad gauge line and to lay a new railway line from Guntakal to Tumkur

[English]

SHRI ANANTHA VENKATA REDDY (Anantapur): Guntakal is one of the major railway junctions in South India and it is midway Madras and Bombay. It has metre-gauge and broad-gauge lines.

Guntakal junction is directly connected to Secunderabad by a metre-gauge line via Dronachalam Kurnool and Mehboob Nagar. There is a broad gauge line from Bangalore to Guntakal. If Guntakal and Secunderabad are connected by a parallel broad gauge line, this will serve the nation greatly.

For laying parallel broad gauge track between Guntakal and Secunderabad, preliminary survey work has already been completed and the report is pending with Railway Board.

I request the hon. Minister for Railways to sanction this project and complete the laying of parallel broad-gauge track between Guntakal and Secunderabad.

A new railway line from Guntakal to Tumkur via Urvakonda, Kalyandurg, Pavagoda and Madakasira

[Sh. Anantha Venkata Reddy]
should also be surveyed as Pavogoda is a pilgrimage centre which connects Karnataka State and Andhra State and is very important and useful to both the States.

(ii) **Need for channelisation of water of rivers Tans, Sarsa and Giri in Himachal Pradesh to check soil erosion and floods**

[*Translation*]

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTAN-PURI (Shimla): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Central Government has provided huge amount of money to Himachal Pradesh Government to check soil erosion, but the State Government has not been able to accomplish this task successfully. Soil erosion is continuing in Himachal Pradesh and the State Government has not formulated any scheme to check it, with the result that fertile top soil in the fields of farmers worth crores of rupees, is washed away every year and they are suffering heavy losses. In my constituency, Shimla district the Tans river, the Sarsa river in Solan and the Giri river and Giri Bata in Sirmaur district are causing heavy soil erosion. The water of these rivers may be channelised. If the State Government is not sending any scheme to the union Government in this regard, in that case the Government should conduct a survey on its own so that floods in the plains of Haryana and U.P. may be controlled. Afforestation should be done vigorously in hilly areas to generate employment opportunities for the people of this area. Besides, the people who plant fruit-bearing trees such as apple, pear, peach, apricot, etc., should be told to grow trees so that farmers may earn some money and soil erosion may be checked. I request the Central Government to grant aid to farmers for growing fruit bearing trees.

(iii) **Need to connect Bareilly (Uttar Pradesh) by Vayudoot services**

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Bareilly is a major centre of

Uttar Pradesh. In addition to being a metropolitan city, it has been decided to develop Bareilly as a counter magnate city by the Central Government. In addition to three sugar mills, it has got a fertiliser plant of IFFCO at Aonla, synthetic chemicals, camphor, Elite, Wimco Match Box Factory, IWP Catechu (Kattha) factory etc. But it has not so far been connected with Vayudoot service, which hampers commercial activities of this centre, and a number of passengers going to Bombay, Calcutta and southern states are facing great inconvenience.

I had written to the concerned hon. Minister previously also for connecting Bareilly with Vayudoot services. My submission is that the hon. Aviation Minister should issue necessary instructions very soon to connect Bareilly with Vayudoot Services.

(iv) **Need to look into the problems of Kendriya Vidyalaya teachers posted in North-Eastern States**

[*English*]

SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA (Nowgong): Sir, I invite the attention of the House towards the grievances of thousands of teachers of Kendriya Vidyalaya, posted in North-East Region.

It is obligatory on the part of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan to give pay, allowances, admissible to civilian employees of the Government of India. However, while the Government of India has provided for 2-3 years' tenure of posting for North-Eastern region, whereafter employees are transferred to a choice place in public interest, the Sangathan has extended this facility only to Post Graduate Teachers and has deprived all other categories which constitute about ninety per cent of such teachers.

Similarly, Kendriya Vidyalayas teachers are not being paid Special Duty Allowance either.