

MR. SPEAKER : I would request Shri Ramavtar Shastri to sit down.

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI : **

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Member may kindly sit down.... He may shout as much as he likes. Nothing is being recorded.... Will he kindly sit down now? Nothing is being recorded. If in spite of my asking him to sit down he insists that he should speak, let him speak, but nothing is being taken down.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE THIRTY-EIGHTH REPORT

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH (Nandyal): I beg to present the Thirty-eighth Report of the Estimates Committee on the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation (Department of Agriculture)—Central Institute of Fisheries Technology, Ernakulam.

12.22½ hrs.

STATEMENT ON REORGANISATION OF HINDUSTAN STEEL LIMITED

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (DR. CHANNA REDDY) rose—

MR. SPEAKER: He may lay it on the Table of the House.

DR. CHANNA REDDY: I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Statement on the reorganisation of Hindustan Steel Limited. [Placed in Library. See No LT-517/68].

12.23 hrs.

STATEMENT ON RAILWAY ACCIDENT AT YALVIGI STATION

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the hon. Railway Minister.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : With profound regret, I have to inform the House that.... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI (Patna) : **

MR. SPEAKER: I can understand the hon. Member standing and shouting. But I find that there is an hon. Member who is sitting, and then shouting; that is much more indecent. I do not want to hear any of them. Now, the hon. Railway Minister.

SHRI K. N. TIWARY (Bettiah) : Shri Ramavtar Shastri should be named and sent out of the House.

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: Sir, with profound regret I have to inform the House that at about 22.35 hours last night train No. 208 Down Poona-Bangalore Deccan Express entered the platform line of Yalvigi station, on the Harihar-Hubli metre gauge section of the Mysore Division of Southern Railway, and collided head-on with train No. 215 Up Birur-Hubli passenger which had been received on that line earlier at 21.55 hours.

As a result the engines of both the trains got entangled and the front coaches next to the engines of both the trains got smashed. According to latest report available 36 persons were killed and 34 injured, of whom 11 persons are suspected to have sustained serious injuries. One injured person succumbed to his injuries bringing the total number of dead persons to 37.

Immediately on receipt of information medical van accompanied by Assistant Medical Officer was rushed from Harihar. Medical Relief Special accompanied by Divisional Medical Officer and Divisional Operating Superintendent was also despatched from Arsikere at 23.25 hours. The Divisional Superintendent and Divisional Engineer, Mysore also left for the site by Medical Relief Special from Bangalore. The Divisional Superintendent, Hubli alongwith the Divisional Medical Officer and Divisional Operating Superintendent left Hubli by Medical Relief Special at 23.20 hours and reached the site at 00.55 hours. In the meantime 3 doctors who were travelling by train No. 208 Down rendered first aid to the injured.

The General Manager, Southern Railway alongwith the Heads of