

I call upon the Minister to make a statement.

In this particular case, I read out that there were three calling attention notices and one adjournment motion as well. I wanted to know some facts in order to help me in coming to a decision whether I should give consent or not. I had made it clear already that, therefore, I call them calling attention notices so that facts might be known. When Shri Mukerjee raised the objection that he insists on his adjournment motion and that he would not agree to its being converted, then, I only wanted the facts to be known, and I made it clear to the House as well, if Government had any information. There is no question that Government has agreed to answer this calling attention notice. Even when it had been called, the answer would have been the same that there are no facts available yet and, therefore, the Government is trying to get that. That is what has been said even now and that was what was going to be said if the calling attention had been taken up.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Can any definite date be fixed? As Shri Kamath said, Monday would be better.

Mr. Speaker: I have already said that, probably, the information would be had by Monday.

12.17 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

RAILWAY COLLISION AT SIVARAMAPURAM

Mr. Speaker: There is another about the railway accident, by Shri S. M. Banerjee, Shri Bishanchander Seth, Shri Ram Sewak Yadhav and some others. I will ask Shri Banerjee to read it.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Sir, under rule 197, I call the attention of

the Minister of Railways to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

“The Head-on collision between a Military Special Goods train and an ordinary goods train on 24.5.62 near Sivaramapuram in Southern Railway resulting in serious injury of 15 persons.”

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): Sir, in reference to the Call Attention Notice given by the hon. Member, I have to inform the House that at 2:24 hours on 24-5-1962, a collision took place between a goods train No. 1590 Up Goods and a Military Vehicle Special No. V 414 at Sivaramapuram station on the Madras-Guntakal section.

The two trains were due to cross each other at Sivaramapuram station. The signals were lowered for the goods train to be received first. As the goods train was entering, the Military Vehicle Special, for which the signals had not been lowered, passed the Down Outer, Home and Starter Signals at Sivaramapuram station at danger and collided with the goods train between Up Home and Down Advanced Starter.

As a result of the collision, the leading engines of both the trains got derailed. One TLR of the Military Special next to the engine was partly smashed and derailed and thirteen KMs on the train derailed.

Ten of the military personnel escorting the train suffered injuries. One out of these sustained serious injuries and the others, simple injuries. In addition, five railway employees received simple injuries. Medical relief was rushed to the spot from Gooty and Nandalur. Nine of the injured military personnel were sent to the Cuddapah Government Hospital.

Through running of trains was obstructed. Permanent way was damaged for about six rail lengths. Transhipment of passengers was arranged.

[Shri Shahnawaz Khan]

at site. A diversion was laid and through communications were restored at about 21:30 hours on 24-5-1962. The Additional Commissioner of Railways (Safety) is holding an enquiry into the cause of the accident.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: This is a special military goods train and the hon. Deputy Minister told us that it was carrying military vehicles. I want to know whether some of the vehicles had been damaged. What is the information that he has?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: At present I do not have any specific information on the subject. But I presume that there has been no serious damage to any military vehicle.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: 13 wagons have capasized.

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: No, no. They have derailed. There is some difference between the two.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: This statement is absolutely the same as the Press Statement; the Press has reported very well.

Mr. Speaker: Does he want to put any question?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I wanted to know whether any wagon had capasized.

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: None has capasized.

श्री राम सेवक्यादव (बाराबंकी) :
रोजना रेल दुर्घटनायें घट रही हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या इन दुर्घटनाओं को रोकने के लिए माननीय मंत्री जी के पास कोई प्रोग्राम है या हम समझ लें कि थोड़े समय के लिए कोई मौसम सा दुर्घटनाओं का रोकना है? क्या इनकी कोई रोकथाम होगी ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां : जी हां। हर एक जो दुर्घटना होती है, उसके लिए कोई अलहदा वजह होती है। इस दुर्घटना के बारे में बताया गया है कि सिगनल खतरे के ऊपर था। देखते हुए कि यह डेंजर के ऊपर है, फिर भी गाड़ी आगे निकल गई....

श्री प्रिय गुप्त (कटिहार) : क्या इनकवायरी हो गई है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आर्डर आर्डर ।

श्री प्रिय गुप्त : बिना इनकवायरी हुए यह कैसे कहा जा सकता है। It will have a bad effect on the enquiry . . . (Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Minister is speaking.

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: He will be free to take disciplinary action against persons who are responsible. He will go round and check the station working rules and draw the attention of the station staff to the security rules. These are things which are constantly done.

12.22 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

STATEMENT ON TRUNK TARIFFS

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (i) a statement on the revision of concessional tariffs and periods for Trunk Calls.
- (ii) a statement on rationalisation of Trunk Tariffs. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-139/62].