

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) There was no attack of locusts in the country during the years 1991-92 and 1992-93. As such there was no damage in the crops during these years.

(b) and (c) In view of the reply to part (a), the question does not arise.

[*English*]

12.03 hrs.

**Mr. Speaker** : The hon. Member have been cooperating very well. I thank them for their cooperation. It was decided that we will make this hour also very meaningful and effective and the discussion should be over within half-an-hour, something about 30 minutes or less or more. Today, I propose to allow two kinds of discussions. One on bomb blasts in the trains and the other on the strike of the postal employees. If time permits we may take up one or two other items. We may take up other items later on, may be tomorrow or the day after tomorrow. Please cooperate in this respect.

[*Translation*]

**Shri Govinda Chandra Munda** (Keonjhar) : I am on a point of order Fire was caused in my bungalow due to short circuit.

**Mr. Speaker** : Please, sit down now.

**Shri Govinda Chandra Munda** : How can I sit down now ?

[*English*]

**Mr. Speaker** : I need some time to hear your point of order later on. There is no point of order at this point of time.

**Shri Govinda Chandra Munda** : Sir, I want to make a submission.

**Mr. Speaker** : I will hear you later. You have to sit down now.

12.04 hrs.

**Re : Bomb Blasts in Five Pressigious Passenger Trains on 6-12-1993**

[*Translation*]

**Shri Jaswant Singh** (Chittorgarh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there were reports of bomb-blasts in several trains in many parts of the country early morning yesterday. Though the hon'ble Minister of Railways furnished some details here in regard to these mishaps yet it has become a mere formality because it has three aspects.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, these are not mere rail accidents. 477 rail accidents have occurred till September this year and 370 persons have been killed in these accidents. A rail accident is a different thing and bomb-blasts in trains is something entirely different.

The hon'ble Minister of Railways in his statement gave information regarding the names of the ill-fated trains and the time and place of these bomb blasts. I want to raise only two points. First, I would like to know whether the Ministry of Home Affairs had prior

information in this regard. Was the Ministry aware that bomb blast might occur in Bombay, Madras, Calcutta or here in Delhi, within two hundred yards of Parliament House at the same time or on the same date. When an accident takes place simultaneously in five trains at different places at the same time it means there was a conspiracy behind it. That is why it is not proper that the Ministry of Railways should come out with merely a statement which has become more or less a formality.

I would submit to you that either the Ministry of Home Affairs comes and reveals the facts or you allow us to hold a debate on that. The Ministry must disclose what steps were taken by them and what steps are proposed by them to avert recurrence of such incidents. It is difficult to believe that the Ministry of Home Affairs or Ministry of Railways did not have a prior knowledge. Both these Ministries were aware beforehand that such incidents might take place and finally these incidents took place. My submission is that the Ministry of Home Affairs should come out with all the details and satisfy the House.

**Shri Sharad Yadav** (Madhepura) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree with hon'ble Jaswant Singh Ji who has raised the matter regarding bomb blasts in trains. Really these incidents are condemnable incidents. It becomes the responsibility of the Central Government to find out the brains behind these incidents. When the truth is not known, rumours

spread. The political parties also play a role in spreading rumours fast. I would like to submit to the Government, through you, that they take a very long time in carrying out investigations into these incidents. The public has given all powers to the Central Government. Such incidents take place in train in five places simultaneously but the efficient department of the Central Government cannot even find out the brain behind these incidents. Many parties have lost their credibility now but the nation has won. I want to submit that the public has taken initiative to give a new direction to the nation. The Government, therefore, needs to remain alert and vigilant. You should not remain in slumber. The main reason for recurrence of these incidents is lack of vigilance on the part of the Government.

I want to appeal that the brain behind these incidents should be unmasked. The public has vested all powers in you. If you remain alert such incidents can definitely be checked. Propaganda can be carried out against those who indulge in these nefarious activities. I strongly condemn those who vent their anger in such bad taste to further create tension in the country and I condemn the Government also for its ineffective handling of the situation.

There has been total failure on the part of the Government to arrest those involved in such incidents. I urge that these people along with their political mentors must be

exposed so that these could be dealt with politically.

[*English*]

**Shri Sudarsan Raychaudhuri (Serampore)** : Sir, I was a passenger in the ill-fated Rajdhani Express from Howrah to Delhi yesterday. The matter has been discussed in the House yesterday and I was not present at that time.

The train was late by about five to six hours. I would like to draw your attention to the most important fact that not only the miscreants should be immediately apprehended—there is no doubt about it— but also a proper inquiry should be made into the whole affairs. This bomb-blast must have been pre-planned because five prestigious trains were affected simultaneously and these were Rajdhani Expresses. There seems to have been conspiracy and pre-planning about these accidents.

It is most unfortunate that yesterday at 5.45 in the morning a bomb exploded in the toilet of C.II Chair Car of Rajdhani Express. It was just four or five KM away from Bhaupur Station. The train came to Bhaupur Station at about 6 o'clock with the information that a bomb exploded but even then the passengers were not asked to get down immediately at that Station. Even caution was not given in the public address system in the train. The passengers were curious to know and get the information. There were many rumours. But not a single policeman arrived there till 7.30 AM and I came to know

from the railway people that neither the local SP nor the District Magistrate did even arrive there. It is most unfortunate. At 8.30 AM, the Chief Area Manager came to the Bhaupur Station. Some unclaimed baggages came out from C.VI and C.III. Two unclaimed baggages were kept near the platform and in the open field. Just at 9.15 in the morning, one of the bags exploded like anything and upto that moment, the railway people including the Chief Area Manager were apparently giving permission to the train to leave Bhaupur Station. After that explosion, we were there, about 14 MPs, and we insisted upon the railway people to make a search of all the compartments. I personally had a talk with the Kanpur Station people. They told me that bomb squads were not readily available and that they will not be coming. I gathered that bomb squad was not there up to 11 AM. Even military bomb squad, who were contacted, did not come. UP Police are not experts in this. There were no sniffer dogs. They had a cursory glance and we personally intervened and had a talk with the railway people and then with their help, passengers got down with their baggages on the platform. The railway people and the local police made an inspection and the train left at 11 AM.

My point is that there is no proper system with the railway people to make proper inspection of all the compartments. Bomb squad is not readily available. There is no coach attendant in the chair car

section. Many people may come into the coaches and get down. No security is there in any of the Stations. That is a big problem in the chair car section.

So, my submission to the Railway Minister through you is that proper inquiry should be made by the Railway Minister and the miscreants should be apprehended and proper security measures should be there at each Station and coach attendants should be there in all the chair cars. *(Interruptions)*

DR. K.D. JESWANI (Kheda) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I along with eighteen Members of Parliament was travelling in a train yesterday from Bombay to Delhi. At 5.15 a. m. after passing through Kota the train stopped between Indigarh and Ambompi stations with a big jerk and everybody woke up. It was announced that some persons had bouts of cough in C-7 chair car of the train and doctors, if available in trains, were requested to attend on them. Being Doctors, I and Dr. Patel went there. We saw that four persons had severe bouts of cough and two out of them were in a critical condition. We came to know that there had been a bomb-blast somewhere behind a cloud of smoke had settled inside the coach. All the passengers were evacuated from the coach. There were some elderly people who had suffered asthmatic attacks and we treated them. The train running in between Bombay and Delhi do not have any security

guards after the Kota station. While coming from Bombay to Delhi there are four security guards upto Kota but there after there are no security guards in it. An investigation should be got conducted by the bomb-squad into this mishap.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : This point has already been made by him. The point is more security should be provided and the other facilities also should be provided.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was one of those 14-15 Members of Parliament who were travelling in that ill fated train when this incident took place near Kanpur. I came to know about it when something fell in front of me and the trains jerked to a stop. The Central Government and the State Governments were aware that fundamentalist groups had given warning to take avengé of the happenings of 6th December and unleash their anger against the people belonging to other community. I believe that this happened because the Central Government and the State Governments were not alert enough to prevent it. The bomb-blasts have occurred at six places. These could have occurred at fifty places also. It could have been Anywhere, in buses or Aeroplanes too. I believe that the Government has utterly failed to discharge its duties on 6th December.

**SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR** (Barrackpore) :

Sir, I was also in the train. I am not going into the details of what happened that day. My suggestion is that during the period of boarding the train, in all the coaches, there should be some arrangement of checking. Specially, in Rajadhani Express which is having a limited stoppages, it is not impossible to have checks in all the coaches at the time of boarding the train and alighting from the train in the mid-way stoppages. There are only four stoppages. That can very easily be done. Secondly, when the bomb exploded, it was supposed that the whole train should have been encircled by the police; the people should have been checked before they got down because those articles which had been left, which were explosive ones, were not identified who was carrying all those things. The result is that responsibility could not be fixed. This is what I wanted to say.

**SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA** (Madhubani) : Mr. Speaker, Sir....

**MR. SPEAKER** : If you are going to raise a new point, only then I will allow you.

**SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA** : Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday my friend Advaniji recalled the incidents that took place on the 6th December last year, and said they were unfortunate.

**MR. SPEAKER** : There is no time for that. There are many other

items to be taken up. We have to hold a discussion on Dunkel Draft.

**SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA** : I would take only a minute. The incident that took place in trains was pre-planned. It was a part of a conspiracy. It could have happened any time any where. So, it becomes imperative that we find out the force behind it. It is the responsibility of the Central Government and not of Ministry of Railways alone. The Ministry of Railways has its own security force and whether they have an intelligence service or not only the hon. Minister could tell us. I would like to know whether they can have prior information. It is not difficult to beef up security arrangements in Delhi in such a situation but it can happen any where. From political angle most of us have given a wrong atmosphere to the country. Last year a chapter of our history was destroyed, a monument of historical importance Babri masjid was demolished...

**MR. SPEAKER** : You should be cautious in what you say.

**SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA** : I had requested two years back also that I should be permitted to place that photograph on the Table of the House which clearly shows that its dome belongs to a masjid and the 14 pillars belonged to a temple. Most of my friends here have not seen it, they do not know about it. Maybe some people are trying to vent their anger as a result of misrepresentations of facts. I urge upon the Government to furnish all the information before

the House regarding the conspiracy and the forces—whether within the country or outside—that are at work Measures should be taken to check recurrence of such incidents.

The Government should tell us whether the intelligence department of Railways had prior information and what was done by the Railway Protection Force in this regard.

*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : Yesterday, I already had mentioned very clearly about that. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Let us please understand that if you have raised a very important matter, the issues which we should have discussed are : What did actually happen there? Is it possible to take some action and what action the Government is going to take? These are the points on which you should concentrate. Instead of that if you are giving a personal account of your travelling in the train : instead of allowing the Railway Minister, if you are asking the Home Minister to respond to that, it may not be possible. The Home Minister and the Railway Minister can consult each other and they can find out. But I am allowing the Railway Minister.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh) : Railway people are finding difficulty in communications. So, high range radio telecommunication

system should be there in the prestigious trains so that such incidents when occur en route, are communicated easily. It is very difficult to communicate even to the railway people there. High range radio telecommunication system should be there.

MR. SPEAKER : Good suggestion, now you can take your seat.

Mr. Minister to speak.

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SAHARIF : I am grateful to the hon. Members who have enlightened us.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, you may address the Chair.

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF : I am grateful to the hon. Members who had enlightened us with their personal knowledge. It is in the knowledge of everybody ; the whole nation has condemned whatever has happened and whoever is responsible, they have to be booked.

Sir, yesterday, even in my statement, I have very clearly mentioned that the planting of these devices on selected prestigious trains seems to indicate a design to create scare among the public. So, it is not something that has happened suddenly.

*[Translation]*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : Why are you saying about the selected prestigious trains only? What about the other ordinary trains?

**SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera)** : Was it an ordinary accident or sabotage or a conspiracy?

**SHRIC.K.JAFFER SHARIEF** : I have said it that it is a conspiracy.

**MR. SPEAKER** : Please do not split the words.

[*English*]

**SHRIC.K.JAFFER SHARIEF** : Sir, I must confess that it is very difficult for a Ministry like Railways which is not having expertise in the field of investigations to suddenly expect or anticipate all these things. But, nevertheless, we will rectify all the inadequacies that were found by the Members. We will be alert we have already issued instructions.

I am really grateful to the hon. Members, some of them were doctors, who went to the rescue of other passengers.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI SHARAD YADAV** : Mr. Speaker, Sir, what the hon. Minister of Railways has said contains no new facts. We have posed the question to the Government and the Home Ministry is competent to answer this. We would like... **MR. SPEAKER** : The Home Minister is not running the Railways. If the Ministry of Railways have got this information than the Railways Minister would reply after consulting the Home Ministry.

This is my ruling; now, please take your seat.

**SHRI C.K.JAFFER SHARIEF** : Sir, we have filed the complaints with the Police of the concerned State Governments and we have requested the Home Ministry to help us to investigate and identify the culprits. (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI JASWANT SINGH** : Sir, it is just a submission which I wish to make. All that the hon. the Railway Minister has done is that he has acknowledged that some suggestions have been given by the hon. Members. That is not our point, Sir. Our point was not about the technical suggestions of improvement of security in the Railways; our point is to the Union Government, the Union Home Minister that there is certainly a conspiracy—of five bomb blasts in trains taking place at the same time. Surely, either the Home Minister should have conveyed the information to the Railway Minister and the Railway Minister should have shared it with us. But, as he has failed to do that, we are well within our rights to submit to you that the Home Minister must share some information with us.

[*Translation*]

What happened? A lot of conspiracy has been committed and the Minister of Railways is saying only that he has accepted the suggestions made by the hon. Members and he would pay attention towards it. Today we are not concerned with suggestions; We are concerned with conspiracy...

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Can you find out the 'Shadyantra' in one day's time?  
[*Translation*]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : The Minister of Home Affairs should say that the enquiry is being conducted. Both of them are jointly conducting it. It should not go in this way.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : If he wants to make a suo motu statement, he is at liberty to do it. But, I am not going to ask him to do that.

[*Interruptions*]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats now.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, is it such a simple thing or.

MR. SPEAKER: You have raised a very important matter in a very good manner. It would be better if you try to find out something out of this issue otherwise there is no use to make allegations against anybody or to catch the defaulter. If this is happening this way, and the same type of incident has taken place at five places only in a day then what does it mean? We all can understand it. If it can be detected as to who is exactly responsible for it and who has done all this, it means that such type of situation can also be created in our country. We have to think as to what can be done to avoid the recurrence of such incidents. The

intelligence Department of the Ministry of Home Affairs can do it in consultation with the Railway Ministry Comprehensive deliberations can be made in this regard. After such deliberations it can be chalked out as to what type of protection should be given to Railways and trains and what type of communication arrangements should be made. What type of investigation should be made to detect the system as to how the bombs were planted in the trains? Should there be a dogsquad? These are all such things as can be discussed in detail and can be implemented after preparing a plan. I hope that the Railways and the Government would be following this system and they will do it. If they are following it, it is allright. This is the intention of all the people here, and I hope the Government would consider it.

[*English*]

SHRI C.K. JAFAR SHARIEF : I am glad, whatever is our thinking, you have already expressed it.

[*Interruptions*]

MR. SPEAKER : Just do not take pleasure in speaking out.

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FAIMI : There is a bomb blast in Delhi and two people have died.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker Sir, no doubt, this case is related to the Ministry of Home Affairs. . . .



MR. SPEAKER : It is me to decide. Do not discuss it again and again.

[English]

SHRI C.K. JAFFAR SHARIFF : I am grateful to you, the exact thinking of the Ministry has been held out by you. This is exactly the live that we are having.

MR. SPEAKER : We are on the same wave length.

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF : We have already called the Inspector General of Police of the States for a discussion with us. We have also requested the Home Minister and his representatives to associate themselves. It is going to be a fool proof arrangement to see that in future such things do not happen and at the same time to see that every possible effort is made to book the culprits who are responsible for this kind of a conspiracy.

[Translation]

SHRI CHEDDI PASWAN (Sasaram) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to give a suggestion which would be very convenient for the hon. Minister. During English regime, an officer was invariably used to be transferred after a period of three years of his posting at one station, but I feel that the hon. Minister is fully aware that now-a-days officers remain at one place for more than 15-20 years and the number of such employees is much more than five thousand. If an officer is posted at one place for more than fifteen to twenty years, he loses his interest in his work. So attention should be paid towards this issue too.

**Re : Strike by Postal Employees**  
[English]

12.33 hrs.

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN (Chirayinkil) : It is shocking that the postal strike is declared illegal. Actually for this strike the demand notice was given in April. Because the Government did not move, the strike notice was given in October. Even then the Government did not take steps and they were forced to go in for strike. This is actually a shame to the country that this strike is made illegal. It is surprising and atrocious that out of the six lakh employees in this Department, 3,04,568 employees are extra-departmental employees and the rest are less than 50 per cent. Over 50 per cent are extra-departmental employees. They get a paltry sum of Rs. 465. Over 90 per cent of the people are getting this amount. They have no pay scales, no pension, statutory gratuity, no leave, nothing. If they have to go on leave for one day, they have to appoint another man themselves. This is a shameful thing.

12.34 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER IN the chair : It is said that this is a loss making concern which we actually dispute. Actually the Social Audit Panel itself has recommended that the Finance Department is showing a stepmotherly attitude towards this Department for their agency services it is actually not properly paid. So many other things are there. There is no time. There is a proper discussion over it,