

that is what it says. Is it not the responsibility of the Railway Ministry?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** No. The siding is maintained by the railways. But it is a defence siding, and the handling of these stores is done by the army themselves. Of course, civilian labour has to be engaged by them. They cannot do everything entirely by themselves. But it is done by the Defence Ministry.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am not disposing of this now. We shall wait until the hon. Minister returns. Let us see what actually has happened.

**DEATH OF AND INJURY TO ARMY PERSONNEL DURING FIRING TRAINING AT AMBALA**

**Mr. Speaker:** There is another adjournment motion by Shri Braj Raj Singh. That also relates to the Defence Ministry. It reads:

"Failure of the Army authorities at Ambala to take adequate precautions and safety measures during training at the firing ranges in the evening of February 22nd, as a result of which explosion took place, resulting in the death of three army personnel and injuries to two."

But for the fact that there were three reported deaths I would not have read it here. I would like to know what actually has happened.

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** Mr. Speaker, during the normal training of the army personnel, field firing exercises take place. After the firing is complete, then the team goes out to check up if there are any shells which have not exploded. It was during the course of this check-up that one of the shells exploded while people were near about it. That is all the facts that we have got with us at the moment.

**Shri Braj Raj Singh:** (Ferozabad): I want to know why precautions were not taken. Because of that, three lives have been lost

**Mr. Speaker:** In trying to find out whether some shells have exploded or not, in the matter of checking up, they have got exploded. That is the difficulty. The House would like to know what precautions have been taken.

**Sardar Majithia:** So far as precautions are concerned, clear orders have been laid down by the Army Headquarters . . .

**Shri Braj Raj Singh:** They are not followed.

**Mr. Speaker:** Let there be no interruption.

**Sardar Majithia:** . . . which are followed. But accidentally it happened. I am very sorry for this accident. From the information available, I take it that this is not due to the negligence on the part of army people. It is just one of the accidents that occasionally take place. I am very sorry. We are deeply grieved for the people who died as a result of this explosion.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur):** May I know whether any compensation has been paid to them?

**Mr. Speaker:** Not so soon. We are more concerned with the deaths.

**Shri Asoka Mehta (Muzaffarpur):** Can we not have a fuller statement? The information is rather inadequate.

**Mr. Speaker:** Yes. I have also received two Calling Attention Notices under rule 197 from two hon. Members, Shri Vajpayee and Shri S. M. Banerjee for answer on the 26th, that is, tomorrow. Of course, tomorrow is a little too early. The hon. Minister may make a fuller statement regarding this day after tomorrow.

**Sardar Majithia:** As you wish; your wishes will be carried out. I would like to have a couple of days more. I will do it as soon as possible, within the next three days.

**Mr. Speaker:** We will have it on 28th We are sitting on that day.

[Mr Speaker]

With regard to the adjournment motion, the hon. Minister says that all precautions have been taken. Then, a fuller statement will be made to the House on 28th, clearing up all the doubts that have arisen or have been raised here. I therefore do not give my consent to the adjournment motion.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

##### BUDGET ESTIMATES OF DAMODAR VALLEY CORPORATION

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Budget Estimates of the Damodar Valley Corporation for the year 1958-59, under sub-section (3) of Section 44 of the Damodar Valley Corporation Act, 1948. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-543/58]

##### NOTIFICATIONS ISSUED UNDER ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, a copy of each of the following Notifications:—

- (1) S.R.O. No. 2035-A, dated the 5th September, 1956, making certain amendments to the Cotton Textiles (Production by Handloom) Control Order, 1956.
- (2) S.R.O. No. 199, dated the 8th January, 1958, making certain further amendment to the Cotton Textiles (Production by Handloom) Control Order, 1956.
- (3) S.R.O. No. 202, dated the 18th January, 1958, making certain further amendments to the Cotton Textiles (Control) Order, 1948.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-544/58].

##### AMENDMENT TO EMPLOYEES PROVIDENT FUND SCHEME

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of Section 7 of the Employees' Provident Funds Act, 1952, a copy of Notification No. S.R.O 488, dated the 8th February, 1958, making certain further amendment to the Employees' Provident Funds Scheme, 1952. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-545/58].

##### NOTIFICATIONS ISSUED UNDER ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, a copy of each of the following Notifications:—

- (1) S.R.O. No. 3686, dated the 18th November, 1957 containing the Bombay Wheat (Sale Control) Order, 1957
- (2) S.R.O. No. 3753, dated the 22nd November, 1957, making certain further amendment to the Orissa Rice (Prohibition of Export) Order, 1957
- (3) S.R.O. No. 4043, dated the 14th December, 1957, making certain further amendment to the Inter-Zonal Wheat Movement Control Order, 1957.
- (4) S.R.O. No. 4073, dated the 19th December, 1957, making certain further amendment to the Orissa Rice (Prohibition of Export) Order, 1957.
- (5) S.R.O. No. 4074, dated the 20th December, 1957, making certain amendment to the Punjab Rice (Movement Control) Order, 1957.
- (6) S.R.O. No. 4075, dated the 20th December, 1957 containing the Uttar Pradesh Rice (Export Control) Order, 1957.