

[Shri Thanulingam Nadar]

any major accidents in the railways or in dams. Yesterday and today we hear that a major dam has been destroyed and railway traffic is suspended.

Mr. Speaker: That does not mean that Members who are responsible to bring many serious matters to the notice of the House can escape from that responsibility. In this case, this happened yesterday. Let them wait and see whether the Minister makes a statement. What is the hurry about it?

SUGGESTION FOR DISCUSSION ON RAILWAYS' WORKING

Mr. Speaker: I would like to make one suggestion so far as railway operations are concerned. So far as food is concerned, almost every session we have a debate on the food situation. Likewise, instead of waiting once in twelve months to ventilate grievances concerning amenities to passengers, punctuality of trains and all that, I would request the hon. Minister of Railways and the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to consider whether every six months we cannot have a discussion for two or three hours for all hon. Members to refer to late coming of trains, amenities and all that happens on the railways. There is no harm in doing that. We are spending so much time with respect to other matters. Communication is so important that it can also be discussed every six months so that the House may get an opportunity of going over the entire field of railway operations instead of taking away time during Question Hour on a single question. The hon. Minister, with all his capacity and skill, may not be able to remember everything about everything that happens on the railway. This is a matter for the hon. Minister to consider. Or he may hold a conference of all the Members

in the Central Hall. I have no objection to that. Even informally the hon. Minister may call all Members for discussion.

Shri Feroze Gandhi (Rai Bareilly):
No, no.

Mr. Speaker: He may spend some time asking what exactly the difficulties are.

12.04 hrs.

MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT

BURSTING OF KADDAM DAM

Mr. Speaker: I have received notice of an adjournment motion regarding breakdown of a dam.

"Failure of the Government to make adequate marginal lay-out to meet any exceptional eventuality while foundation for the Kaddam Dam was being grounded. It has resulted in the bursting of the almost completed dam causing a loss of nearly two crores of rupees and suspension of rail traffic. . . apart from causing loss of properties by flood on an extensive scale".

What is the latest information regarding this?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): So far as the Kaddam project is concerned, it is a State project and the execution of that project is with the Andhra Pradesh Government itself. The Central Government are not directly concerned with the execution of the project. But so far as the question concerns the tackling of flood problems, we have had some information about the rise in the Kaddam river and the actual water level in the Godavari and the Kaddam itself. We are issuing this information every day in a *Flood Newsletter* which is placed in