

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy): The reports which I have laid on the Table of the House today contain all the information on this subject.

Mr. Speaker: How many people died in each case?

Shri K. C. Reddy: The report of the enquiry committee gives all the details. They are placed on the Table of the House. It is for the House to decide whether they would like to have a discussion in this House.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Ferozabad): Have you now come to know how many people died?

Mr. Speaker: With respect to audit reports, annual reports relating to autonomous corporations etc., they stand on a differing footing and in such cases it must be left to the members to ask for discussion. Otherwise, the report stands approved as it is. But with respect to accidents etc. in respect of which adjournment motions and other motions have been brought up before this House, if the hon. Minister takes time to give some more information, beside the information that he is able to give to the house in the report, he must give a summary of the report when he places the report on the Table of the House. Otherwise, the House would not take notice of it, and the country would not take notice of it, even though it has been laid on the Table.

So, I want a different procedure to be adopted in relation to matters with respect to which the hon. Ministers promise to supply information to the House, instead of merely placing a report on the Table of the House. They must also give a summary of the report relating to accidents etc. This procedure may be followed in future.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): The summary of the report should be read out in the House.

Mr. Speaker: That is right. Whereas the report is laid on the Table, the summary should be read.

Shri K. C. Reddy: That is noted and it will be done. So far we had been following the same procedure that is followed with regard to judicial and other enquiries in connection with railway accidents from time to time. That has been followed in this case also.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: May I know the number of deaths in each case—Asansol and Hyderabad?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister does not have a summary with him. Whenever any accidents are brought to the notice of the House relating to any Ministry and information is sought, if the Ministers are not in possession of the information, if on a future date they lay a copy of the report on the Table, the House would not be satisfied with that. They have to give a summary of what happened, what action has been taken to prevent recurrence and so on, in addition to placing the entire report on the Table of the House.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

MINUTES OF SIXTEENTH SITTING

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Hisar): I beg to lay on the Table the minutes of the Sixteenth sitting of the Committee on Government Assurances held during the Ninth Session.

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS

MINUTES OF THE SEVENTEENTH SITTING

Shri Achar (Mangalore): I beg to lay on the Table the minutes of the Seventeenth sitting of the Committee on Absence of Members from the sittings of the House held during the Ninth Session.