

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): As regards the Zero Hour, that discussion is over. If any hon. Member wants to discuss it, they can move a substantive motion, which the Chairman may or may not allow. ...(*Interruptions*)... As regards the Zero Hour, that discussion is over. ...(*Interruptions*)...

Now, Bill for introduction. The Central Universities Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2008. Shri Arjun Singh.

GOVERNMENT BILLS

The Central Universities Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2008

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Banaras Hindu University Act, 1915, the Delhi University Act, 1922, the Jawahar Lal Nehru University Act, 1966, the North-Eastern Hill University Act, 1973 and the University of Hyderabad Act, 1974.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN: Now, further discussion on the Railway Budget, 2008-09.

The Budget (Railways 2008-09—Contd.

SHRI C. PERUMAL (Tamil Nadu): *Hon. Vice Chairman, Let me thank you for giving me an opportunity to put forth my views on the Railway Budget for the year 2008-09.

Railway provide job opportunities to thousands of people as the biggest employer in the country. This vast network is in operation right from the days of the Britishers. When it comes to service, safety and sanitation much needs to be done still. There are about eighteen thousand unmanned level crossings in the country. I fail to understand why this Government has not realized and taken note of the accidents that happen causing huge loss to life and property in these unmanned level crossings. This pains us all. About twenty people all of them village Panchayat officers died recently at an unmanned level crossing in Tamil Nadu in an accident. Railways must own responsibility. But it does not happen normally. It is disappointing that this budget do not mention any thing about manning this menacing unmanned level crossings.

Hon. Railway Minister has stated that twenty five thousand crores of rupees have been earned as profit this year. But announcement regarding new rail routes and new gauge conversion projects are not there much in this budget. I would like to reiterate my specific demand for the 11th time in this august House. I feel ashamed that my demand made ten times earlier has not been considered still. I have been repeatedly demanding a rail link between Jolarpet and Hosur. The people of this area have been requesting the railways to link these two towns *via* Tiruppathur, Kanthali, Bargur, Krishnagiri and Sholagiri. This is a

*The speech was originally delivered in Tamil.