

RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, the 2nd December, 2009/11, Agrahayana 1931 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

HOMAGE TO THE VICTIMS OF BHOPAL GAS TRAGEDY

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Bhopal gas tragedy, on behalf of the House and on my own behalf, I express my sympathies for those who lost their family members or were incapacitated.

The scars of the tragedy still haunt us in the form of incapacitated people and children born with deformities. It was, indeed, a human tragedy of unparalleled magnitude and shocked the conscience of the world.

The criminal human folly that caused this tragedy 25 years back has been compounded by indifferent attitude in subsequent years. It is incumbent on us, morally and legally, to do our utmost to support the surviving victims in every manner possible. Compensation claims must be settled expeditiously in a time-bound manner.

As a people, we have to show ourselves, and the world at large, that we are willing and capable of taking care of the fellow citizens who became victims of that tragedy.

I am sure the whole House will join me in conveying our heartfelt sympathies to the people who have suffered due to that gruesome incident and appeal to the State and Central Governments to take expeditious steps to alleviate the sufferings of thousands of people who were affected by that manmade tragedy.

SARDAR TARLOCHAN SINGH (Haryana): Sir, similar sentiments must be shared for the 1984 incident, when nearly 7000 people died. Twenty-five years have passed. Such sentiments must also be expressed in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, Sardar Tarlochan Singh. This is not the ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, पच्चीस साल पहले...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA (Punjab): He is right, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SARDAR TARLOCHAN SINGH: Sir, 25 years have passed. Government has not taken. ...*(Interruptions)*... Similar sentiments must also be expressed by Members in the House, Sir...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि (उड़ीसा) : सर, पच्चीस साल पहले 2 नवम्बर को यह हुआ था ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. Question 181; Hon. Member absent. ...*(Interruptions)*... Question 182.

*181. [The questioner Shri Nand Kumar Sai was absent. For answer *vide* page 35 *infra*.]