

Business	Time Allotted
2. Discussion on the Approach to the Fifth Five-Year Plan.	2 days.
3. Consideration and passing of the following Bills, as passed by the Lok Sabha :	
(a) The National Co-operative Development Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 1973.	1 hour & 30 minutes.
(b) The Mysore State (Alteration of Name) Bill, 1973.	30 minutes.
(c) The Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands (Alteration of Name) Bill, 1973.	30 minutes.
(d) The Customs, Gold (Control) and Central Excises and Salt (Amendment) Bill, 1973.	2 hours.
(e) The Indian Railways (Amendment) Bill, 1973.	2 hours & 30 minutes.
(f) The Agricultural Refinance Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 1973.	2 hours.

The Committee recommended that the House should sit up to 6-00 P.M. daily, and beyond 6-00 P.M. as and when necessary, for the transaction of Government Business.

The House stands adjourned till 2-30 P.M.

The House then adjourned for lunch at one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at thirty minutes past two of the clock, MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

REFERENCE TO A.I.R. REPORT ON BENGAL BANDH

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, the All India Radio is an organ of the Government. The A.I.R. is stating what the Chief Minister is saying.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Qureshi will first make, a statement...

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Mr. Qureshi can make his statement later...

The All India Radio ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You take the permission of the Chairman, first...

(interruptions)

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I have taken your permission. Why don't you give me permission? On the Bengal Bandh, the All India Radio is giving the police version ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Qureshi.

—"

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

RE. COLLISION BETWEEN HOWRAH-AMRITSAR MAIL AND SOUTH BIHAR EXPRESS

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): Sir, I regret to inform the House of a serious accident which took place in the early hours this morning on the Eastern Railway. At about 1.50 hrs., while 5 Up Howrah-Amritsar Mail was waiting at the Up Outer Signal of Madhupur station on the Asansol-Jhajha Broad Gauge double line section, 87 Up South Bihar Express collided in the rear of 5 Up. As a result, the engine and 2 bogies of 87 Up and 3 bogies of 5 Up derailed. According to the latest information available, 17 persons were killed and 50 others injured of whom 10 are hurt grievously. I have just received fresh information that two more persons have died. That takes the number of persons killed to 19.

On receipt of information about this accident the Medical Van from Asansol with Railway doctors and other officers was rushed to the site of accident. After first aid the injured were taken to hospitals at Madhupur, Deogarh and Chittaranjan for further medical attention.

[Shri Mohd. Shaft Qureshi]

The General Manager of the Eastern Railway accompanied by Senior Officers has proceeded to the site to supervise relief and rescue operations. The Minister of Railways is also proceeding to the site of accident.

The Additional Commissioner of Railway Safety, Eastern Circle, Calcutta, will hold a statutory inquiry into this accident at Madhupur on the 28th instant ...

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY (Tamil Nadu): What is the reason suspected...

श्री जगदम्भो प्रसाद यादव (बिहार) : क्या कारण था ? मिनस्ट्रो ने क्या एक्शन लिया ?

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI:

This is the information which I have got. It will take some time to know as to what is the real cause of the accident...

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): I request the Government to make a statement with regard to the situation in West Bengal and the arrests that have been made in West Bengal...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : That is not being discussed. Yes, Mr. Dutt...

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: They are arresting people in West Bengal...

DR. VIDYA PRAKASH DUTT (Nominated): Can I start ?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : You are nominated. We are elected by them. Will the Government make a statement tomorrow ?

...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Dutt.

RESOLUTION *RE* REORGANISATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION

DR. VIDYA PRAKASH DUTT (Nominated): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I beg to move the following Resolution :

"This House is of opinion that Government should take immediate steps to reorganise higher education in two stages namely :

- (i) establish, reorganize and strengthen on a large scale polytechnic

and vocational institutions in the country and give preferential employment in the entire public sector to students coming out of these institutions; and

- (ii) adopt a policy of selective higher education on the criterion of merit while fully ensuring increased opportunities for higher education to the weaker sections of the society and the provisions of various other forms of higher education to those who are working and do not have an opportunity of getting higher education."

The Resolution before this House is regarding the reorganisation of higher education in various Stages. I should like to say at the outset that many friends have felt that perhaps we were discussing a very technical subject this afternoon. Actually, to my mind, it is one of the most burning problems facing the country and it is intimately connected with the further economic development and progress of this country. Therefore, unless we address ourselves immediately, thoroughly and efficiently and with concerted thinking and concerted action, I am afraid that the situation may go from bad to worse. Mr. Deputy Chairman, obviously one cannot put all one's ideas, intents, purposes, intentions, objectives and motives in a few lines when one gives the notice about something. I should like to make it very clear at the very outset that I am neither an advocate nor am I pleading for elite higher education. I am not asking for the extension of the public school system to higher education. I want to make this clear. I fully support the provision for increased opportunities for higher education for the weaker and economically and socially downtrodden sections of society. I think this framework must be clear that it is not at all my intention to make higher education an exclusive privilege for a few people and to deny it to large sections of the people. I shall come back to this theme a little later, but I wanted to say it at the outset so that there is no misunderstanding about my intention in bringing this Resolution before the House.