

[Shri Parimal Ghosh.]

avert an accident. The speed of the Express Train was well below the maximum of 75 KMPH authorised on the section.

The Second accident took place at Jaipur-Keonjhar Road Station on the Kharagpur-Waltair section of the South Eastern Railway on 14-7-69. On that day at about 21-40 hours train No. 513 UP diesel goods collided with the rear of train No. 398 UP Asansol-Puri Passenger, as a result of which the rearmost 2 coaches of the passenger train were smashed.

In this accident, 69 persons were killed on the spot and 132 sustained injuries, of whom 16 succumbed to their injuries bringing the total number of deaths to

Immediately on receipt of information of the accident, ambulance train from Kharagpur and ambulance vans from Khurda Road and Bhadrak were rushed to the site. Before the arrival of the medical relief train, 90 persons were treated by the local doctors, out of whom 70 persons were sent by road to Jaipur Town Civil Hospital and 20 to Gangadi Health Unit. After the arrival of the medical relief train, the remaining 42 injured persons were treated by railway doctors and thereafter sent to Cuttack Medical College Hospital.

The Minister of State for Railways along with Member, Engineering, Railway Board visited the site of the accident and the injured in the hospitals.

The Additional Commissioner of Railway Safety, who proceeded to the site of the accident with the General Manager and Heads of the Departments of the South Eastern Railway on 15-7-1969 is holding an inquiry into this accident.

*Ex-gratia* payments to the next of kin of the dead and to those injured have been made in some cases and are being arranged in other cases.

Claims for compensation for death and injuries in both these accidents will be enquired into and determined by *Ad-hoc* Claims Commissioners who will be appointed shortly in consultation with the State Governments concerned.

SHRI GODEY MURAHARI (Uttar Pradesh) : I would like to know from the Government whether the act of sabotage was political or by certain people who

wanted to loot the passengers after the accident took place. I would also like to know whether the State Government held a different view of the matter and why this contradiction was there between the State Government and the officers of the Central Government regarding the cause of the accident. I would also like to know whether there have been several other railway accidents apart from these two, including the one which took place yesterday, when a goods train got derailed. Why is it that the Railway Ministry is treating all these accidents in such a casual manner? Would it not be proper to demand the resignation of both these Ministers, because they must remember that their illustrious predecessor had resigned for a much smaller reason than this?

It would be in the fitness of things if these two Ministers resigned and made an example of themselves. Therefore I would request the Ministers to submit their resignations and take the responsibility for all the accidents.

I SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal) : Mr. Nijalingappa could not persuade Mr. Poonacha to resign in protest against the Prime Minister's action.

SHRI GODEY MURAHARI : Is it not a fact that the Minister is not treating the whole affair so casually because it is not only these two accidents but there are several others that have taken place.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : It is a suggestion for action.

श्री राजनारायण (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मैडम, एक निवेदन मझ करना है सवाल के रूप में नहीं जरा एक बात सुन लीजिए । मैं सवाल नहीं पूछ रहा हूँ । मैं एक व्यवस्था चाहता हूँ । रामसुभग सिंह जी ने घटना स्थल पर जा कर पूरी जांच की है, हम लोगों ने भी जांच की है । मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि सदन में जो सारी स्थिति बाते हैं वे कैसे आयेंगी वे सवाल के रूप में नहीं आ पा रही हैं । इस पर डिस्कशन होना चाहिए क्योंकि मेरे पास पूरी फाइल है ।

उपस पति : आप को जो स्टेटमेंट हुआ है उस पर सवाल पूछना है ।

श्री राजनारायण : अगर सवाल हुआ तो यह लम्बा होगा ।

SHRI GODEY MURAHARI : He has not answered my question.