Fourteenth Loksabha

Session: 4
Date: 21-04-2005

Participants: Velu Shri R.

Title: Statement regarding rail accident of Train No.9168 Up Varanasi-Ahmedabad Sabarmati Express with Up Goods train at Samlaya Station on Godhara-Vadodara sector of Western Railways on 21.4.2005.

12.05 hrs.

STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER*

MR. SPEAKER: I now request the hon. Minister to make a statement.

As a matter of fact, I had instructed the Government to make a statement on the unfortunate railway accident. Mr. Velu may please make the statement.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): Sir, it is with deep anguish that I apprise the House of an unfortunate rear end collision that occurred between 9168 Up Varanasi -- Ahmedabad Sabarmati Express and Up Goods train at Samlaya station on Godhra -- Vadodara section of Western Railway's Vadodara Division at 0310 hours on 21.04.2005.

In this accident, train engine and 8 coaches of 9168 Up Sabarmati Express derailed of which 7 coaches have capsized.

The casualties reported so far, as a result of this unfortunate accident, is killed 12, and injured about 100. The injured have been admitted to Sayaji Rao Hospital, Vadodara and other nearby hospitals. Stranded passengers have been cleared from the site of accident by running a special train.

Accident Relief Medical Vans from Vadodara, Ratlam and Ahmedabad along with teams of doctors have been rushed to the accident site for immediate medical relief of injured passengers. On receipt of information, Shri Lalu Prasad, Minister for Railways has rushed to the site accompanied by Shri Narainbhai J. Rathwa, Minister of State for Railways, Chairman and Member Mechanical, Railway Board. General Manager, Western Railway and other senior officers from Western Railway Headquarters office and Vadodara rushed to site immediately to supervise relief and rescue operation. Commissioner of Railway

*Also placed in Library, See LT 1927/05

Safety, Western Circle has also reached the site of accident and will be inquiring into this accident.

On behalf of the Railways and myself, I express our deep condolences to the bereaved families and also express sincere sympathies to the injured. I trust the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families. All possible help including financial will be extended to the bereaved families and the injured. I assure the House that strict action will be taken against those found guilty.

प्रो. विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा (दक्षिण दिल्ली) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, रेलवे एक्सीडैंट रोकने के लिए जो एंटी- कोलिजन कम्प्रेसर था, उसका क्या हुआ ? लालू जी ने कहा था कि रेल टकराव रोकने के लिए हमारे पास इक्विपमैंट है। वह लग जायेगा और आगे से

ऐसा नहीं होगा। ...(व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER: You can have a discussion on this. He has just reported this. It was his obligation to make a statement. I have instructed to make a statement.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You can have a discussion. I will permit a discussion. He has said about compensation.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad. Item No.12.

... (Interruptions)

प्रो. विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, लालू जी के पास टाइम ही नहीं है। ...(<u>व्यवधान</u>) उनके पास समय ही नहीं है कि वे उस चीज को कर सकें जो करनी चाहिए। ...(<u>व्यवधान</u>) सरकार इस रेल एक्सीडैंट के लिए जिम्मेदार है। ...(<u>व्यवधान</u>)

MR. SPEAKER: He has gone there. You cannot criticize him for going there.

Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad. Item No.12 please.

... (Interruptions)

प्रो. विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, लालू जी को यहां पर स्पटीकरण देना चाहिए। ...(<u>व्यवधान</u>)

श्री रितलाल कालीदास वर्मा (धंधुका) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री जी ने रेल डिमांड्स पर बोला था कि हम इसे करेंगे लेकिन वे कुछ नहीं कर रहे हैं। ... (व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय: यह क्या हो रहा है ? आप लोग क्या कर रहे हैं ?

...(<u>व्यवधान</u>)

मोहम्मद सलीम (कलकत्ता-उत्तर पूर्व) : क्या इनको हर मामले में सर्टीफिकेट चाहिए ? ...(व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER: What is happening? He is informing what the Central Government Minister and Officers have done.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH (BHILWARA): The Gujarat State Government has done a good job. The Chief Minister has himself reached there. There is no mention of this fact here. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I appreciate it.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Once I am on my legs, you have to sit down. You have to sit down. I am ordering you to sit down. Listen to me what I am observing.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH: But, sometimes, you should listen to us also.... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will listen when it is to be listened.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I appreciate that the hon. Ministers of Gujarat State Government have reached there. I appreciate that they have done the proper thing. I applaud them.

... (Interruptions)

अध्यक्ष महोदय: वे इसमें क्यों बोलेंगे ? आप क्या बात कर रहे हैं ?

...(<u>व्यवधान</u>)

MR. SPEAKER: You are all senior Members.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Can he talk of the State Government?

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are not doing justice to yourself or to the House. Hon. Minister has made a statement.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ilyas Azmi, please. Let me conclude.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I thought, you are utilizing the time.

... (Interruptions)