

A case has been registered against the rioters under Sections 143, 147, 148, 149, 302, 323, 394, 395 of the IPC and Section 108 of the Indian Railway Act. 21 persons have so far been arrested.

The State Government has ordered a high-level inquiry into the incident. The inquiry is being conducted by an Inspector General of Police. The State Government has also ordered payment of ex-gratia of Rs. 50,000/- to the next of kin of the deceased person.

The situation in Palej and around is peaceful.

18.35 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ninth Report

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): I beg to present the Ninth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

18.35 1/2 hrs.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

Delivery of Imported Sugar

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now Half-an-Hour discussion on the points arising out of the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 3413 on 4th April, 1990. Shri Jaswant Singh.

[Translation]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Jodhpur): Mr.

Deputy Speaker, Sir, the difficulty in this Half-an -Hour discussion is that I have raised an issue which is the result of misdeeds of the previous Government but the Hon'ble Prime Minister has to reply to it now. The hon'ble Minister has nothing to do with it. He has answered all my queries with readiness and clarity. But such a serious untoward incident took place in October-November that so many questions arose from the answer given by the hon. Minister that it was necessary to raise a half an hour discussion thereon.

I would straight away ask the question instead of giving a speech. I would also request the hon. Minister to give a detailed reply to these questions. It would be the best thing. The main issue is that about 1.42 lakh metric tonnes of sugar was imported in Oct. 1989. During those days the price of sugar had increased considerably and the people have to bear the brunt. Sugar was imported immediately. The most complicating factor is that in those days the price of sugar ranged between 407 dollars per metric tonne and 433 dollars per metric tonne. Another 85 dollars were added to it to compensate for freight and insurance charges. At that time the one market price ranged between 417 dollars per metric tonne and 433 dollars per metric tonne, yet sugar was bought at the price of 520 dollars per metric tonne. I have not been able to follow it. According to my calculations a deal was finalised for 12.5 crore dollars. The hon. Minister will tell us about its equivalent in rupees. According to my calculation the country has paid an additional amount of one crore and fifty lakhs dollars in excess. Shri Murlī Deora is not present in the House otherwise he would have quickly told us its equivalent in rupees. In the month of October, the previous Government gave away one crore fifty lakh dollars in excess. You should tell us as to who has pocketed this amount. The hon. Minister mentioned the names of some companies through whom sugar was imported. I would not take the names of all the companies but I would like to mention the names of certain companies because one would feel concerned by just mentioning