

12.08 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

[English]

Twenty- second Report

SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI (Dharmapuri) : I beg to present the Twenty-second Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Private Members' Bill and Resolution.

12.09 hrs.

STATEMENT RE : COLLISION BETWEEN A GOODS TRAIN AND AMRITSAR-TATANAGAR EXPRESS BETWEEN GARWA ROAD AND TOLRA STATIONS :

[English]

MR. SPEAKER ; Mr. Minister, you make the statement.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is my sad duty to make this statement on a railway accident. Shrimati Mohsina Kidwai has left for the site. On her behalf, I am informing the House. I am deeply distressed to apprise the House of an unfortunate collision between the parted portion of a goods train and 162 Down Amritsar-Tatanagar Express at about 3.05 hours this morning...

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : This is another accident.

MR. SPEAKER : That is what I was asking. You did not know about it. I knew about it.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : ...between Garwa Road and Tolra Stations on the Garwa Road-Barka Khana broad gauge double line section of Dhanbad Division of Eastern Railway. While the full details are awaited, according to a first informa-

tion received, as a result of the accident, two empty BOX wagons, the engine and first two coaches of 162 Down fell off the bridge and the next three coaches are damaged. Apart therefrom, two BOX empty wagons of the goods train have also fallen.

2. Immediately on receipt of information, General Manager, Eastern Railway, accompanied by Senior Officers, left by a special train from Howrah at 7.48 hrs. Divisional Railway Manager, Dhanbad with Divisional Officers, has also rushed to the spot. Member Traffic from Railway Board has already rushed to the accident site from Delhi. According to information received so far, 32 persons lost their lives and 37 have suffered injuries. I can assure the House that those responsible for the accident shall not be spared.

3. Commissioner of Railway Safety, Eastern Circle, will hold the Statutory Enquiry into the accident.

4. Medical aid from civil and Railway sources has been rushed. Medical Vans were despatched from Barwadi and Gomoh.

Mrs. Kidwai had left by air, Sir. She should be back the moment she inspects the site and we will inform the House later on.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : There should be discussion on this.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : After the Parliament Session has started every week an accident is taking place.

MR. SPEAKER : I have already decided to have some sort of a discussion.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : I have not allowed the Hon. Member.

**Not recorded,