

12.13 hrs.

SYMPATHY FOR EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Manubhai Patel,

SHRI HEM BARUA (Mangaldai) : Before you take up the calling attention motion, may I suggest that we should stand up and pay our homage to the persons who were killed in the earthquake ?

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH (Buxar) : It was precisely with that object that I have brought in a Resolution. Such a Resolution has already been passed in the Rajya Sabha. We should see that suitable measures are taken for providing relief to the earthquake victims. Government could accept the Resolution and take necessary steps.

MR. SPEAKER : We have a call attention motion on the subject. I have also received a suggestion from Dr. Ram Subhag Singh. This will come side by side. Now Shri Hem Barua suggests that we should rise and stand in silence for a short while to express our sympathy for the victims of the earthquake.

AN HON. MEMBER : On behalf of the House, you could convey our sympathies.

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH : Shall I read out the Resolution ?

MR. SPEAKER : On behalf of the House and also as suggested by Dr. Ram Subhag Singh and Shri Hem Barua, we express our sympathy and deep sorrow at the toll taken by the earthquake. On behalf of the House, I convey our sympathy to the victims.

12.15 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

EARTHQUAKE IN GUJARAT NEAR ANKLESHWAR OILFIELDS

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL (Dabhol) : I call the attention of the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals to the following matter of urgent

public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon :

The severe shocks of earthquake in Gujarat near the Ankleshwar Oilfields resulting in heavy death toll and damage to houses.

SHRI NATH PAI (Rajapur) : There should be some kind of logic as to who answers the calling attention notice. I have no objection to my hon. friend Shri D.R. Chavan answering, but this is a national calamity. Just because there are some oilwells in the vicinity, should we ask the Minister for Petroleum to answer ? Either the Prime Minister or the Home Minister should have been here to answer the calling attention.

SHRI N.K. SANGHI (Jodhpur) : I had submitted a calling attention notice to be answered by the Home Minister, and I am really surprised to find that it is being answered by the Minister for Petroleum. This is a very serious matter. Wherever earthquakes have taken place.....

MR. SPEAKER : It is based on the Member's own motion. It is directed to the Minister concerned who is going to attend to it, in this case the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals. As a matter of fact, there was some doubt about the Ministry concerned, and it was also suggested that though it concerns the State, the whole country is concerned with it.

श्री मधु लिमये (मुंबई) : हिन्दुस्तान के एक हिस्से पर इतना गम्भीर संकट आया है, न प्रधान मंत्री का पता है, न गृह मंत्री का पता है और न एक्काडेमिकल नं० 2 का पता है ।

SHRI S. KUNDU (Balasore) : The office has to direct it to the proper Minister.

SHRI N.K. SANGHI : I addressed it to the Home Minister.

MR. SPEAKER : You have expressed your views. It is enough.