

SHRI M. L. SONDHI (New Delhi) : The whole history of our freedom movement is an indictment of Section 144.

MR. SPEAKER : If the members have been arrested, they must inform me.

Till now I have no information.

12.41 HRS.

STATEMENT ON FIRE ACCIDENT TO PASSENGER TRAIN BETWEEN MARIPAT AND DADRI STATIONS ON 7-8-1968.

श्री कंचर लाल गुप्त (दिल्ली सदर) : आन ए पायंट आफ आर्डर। जिस विषय पर मंत्री महोदय वक्तव्य देने जा रहे हैं, उसी विषय पर हम में से कई सदस्यों ने कॉलिंग एटेंशन नोटिस दिये हैं। इसलिए कॉलिंग एटेंशन ले कर मंत्री महोदय को वक्तव्य देने के लिए कहा चाहिए।

MR. SPEAKER : That is no point of order. Even if I admit a Calling Attention, it will come up only tomorrow. But this is a serious matter. Every time there is an accident, the Minister has been making a statement. Do you want him to wait for some Calling Attention or Short Notice Questions ?

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री (हापुड़) अध्यक्ष महोदय, आप की अपनी व्यवस्था है कि मंत्री की ओर से वक्तव्य देने की सूचना और कॉलिंग एटेंशन नोटिस में से जो भी पहले आये, उस को सदन में लिया जायेगा।

MR. SPEAKER : Even if the calling Attention had come two days earlier, I would give the Minister a chance because it is a serious matter. The people should know immediately.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (Shri C. M. POONACHA : Sir, on 7-8-1968, the third coach from the engine of train No. 2 FTD Delhi-Tundla-Farukhabad Passenger which left Maripat station at 14.57 hrs, was noticed to have caught fire at about 15.00 hrs. between Maripat and Dadri stations on the Ghaziabad-Tundla section of the Northern Railway near the UP Outer signal of Maripat station.

As a result of the fire, ten persons died and 51 persons received burns, 28 having sustained simple burns and 23 more serious burns. 9 persons were taken to Ghaziabad

hospital and 42 brought to Delhi, 10 of whom were admitted in the Railway Hospital and 32 in Safdarjung hospital. One person admitted in the Ghaziabad hospital, two in the Railway hospital and 10 in the Safdarjung hospital at Delhi have been discharged. All possible medical attention is being provided for those still in the hospitals.

The alarm chain apparatus of the affected coach was in working order. The coach had been given periodical overhaul as recently as in July 1968. The engine of the train was fitted with a Spark Arrestor in working order. The battery boxes of the affected coach were found covered and the kent couplers and junction boxes properly secured.

From the burnt compartment of the coach two cans were recovered in which petrol or other high speed oil for automobiles is usually carried. The District Magistrate, Bulandshahr, has ordered a Magisterial Inquiry under the Indian Petroleum Act. The Additional Commissioner of Railway Safety is holding a statutory inquiry into the accident, commencing on 10-8-1968 at Ghaziabad. The cause of the accident is under investigation.

12.42 HRS.

RE : CALLING ATTENTION NOTES

MR. SPEAKER : I would like to say that the Calling Attention came today, but normally wherever there is a serious accident or loss of life, the Minister automatically makes a Statement. Yesterday was a holiday, and I could not have admitted the Calling Attention.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA (Delhi Sadar) : We gave the Calling Attention Notice on Saturday.

MR. SPEAKER : I would have admitted it tomorrow, but I thought the statement must be made immediately. If he did not make it, I would have admitted it tomorrow. Anyway, it is a serious accident and unfortunately so many lives have been lost. We are all sorry and very unhappy that this unfortunate accident has occurred.

SHRI NARENDRA SINGH MAHIDA (Anand) : A Calling Attention has been given on Gujarat also. So many people have died and communications have been disrupted.

MR. SPEAKER : You should not raise it like this. The friend who gave notice discussed with me in the Chamber. He is not raising it. We are discussing on Monday about the flood situation. It is not a question of one question being put. Let us have a comprehensive discussion. I have already allowed a discussion. Not only in Gujarat but also in Orissa, Assam and some other places there have been floods. Therefore you should not raise like this. If you raise like this, I can only regret.

SHRI C. M. KEDARIA (Mandvi) : Three hours will not suffice.

MR. SPEAKER : You can have three days; I do not mind. You ask the Government; you are a Member of the Congress Party.

12.43½ HRS.

CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO S. Q.
NO. 124

RE. CUT-PRICE BUSINESS IN AIR-
LINES TICKETS

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) : In the course of supplementaries to starred question No. 124 on 26th July, 1968, I referred to certain malpractices and said that "we are also working out special emigrant fares between India and London because that is the route on which these take place on a large scale. With the BOAC we have worked an emigrant for and we hope thereby to check these malpractices". This may give the mistaken impression that new fare is being worked out in consultation with BOAC. The correct position is that in 1967 the Governments of India and the United Kingdom, along with the two national carriers Air-India and BOAC, established by agreement a reduced emigrant fare for traffic between India and United Kingdom available only if the emigrant travelled by one of these two Airlines. No other special fare apart from this is at present being worked out.

12.44 HRS.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICA-
TIONS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) :
Sir, Government Business in this House

during the week commencing 12th August 1968 will consist of :

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order paper.
2. Consideration and passing of the Central Industrial Security Force Bill, 1968, as passed by Rajya Sabha.
3. Discussion on flood situation in the country at 3.30 P.M. on Monday the 12th August, 1968.

SHRI RANGA (Srikakulam) : Some of us have made representations to you about the suppression of human rights in Tibet. May I request the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to find sometime to discuss this; let them accept my short notice question or give us sometime to discuss that particular matter. Would the Government be prepared to take up this matter at the United Nations in the next meeting of the General Assembly? I have given a short notice question. In spite of your exhortation or advice the other day that all these Ministers should give special consideration to the short notice questions and should not in the usual fashion simply refuse to accept them, what are they going to do?

MR. SPEAKER : Prof. Ranga also told me about this in my Chamber. I do not know if there are other suggestions. Tomorrow or the day after we shall have a Business Advisory Committee meeting and we shall see how we can fit in these things.

SHRI M. L. SONDHAI (New Delhi) : Time is of the essence here, Sir. The UN Agenda is being finalised and if it is not taken up with them now, time will pass.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDI (Kendrapara) : They can make a statement as to what their stand is on this question.

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK (South Delhi) : It can be included in the agenda only if the UN is moved this month.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : I know that the next week will consist of only three working days for the Parliament. Still there are very important matters.

MR. SPEAKER : You will raise all the other important matters. But within those