

12.28½ hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:—

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 97 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Drugs (Amendment) Bill, 1962, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 19th April, 1962."

12.28½ hrs.

DRUGS (AMENDMENT) BILL

AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA—LAID ON THE TABLE

Secretary: Sir, I lay on the Table of the House the Drugs (Amendment) Bill, 1962, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

12.29 hrs.

RE: ALLOTMENT OF SEATS

Mr. Speaker: Now the House shall take up the General Discussion on the Railway Budget Shri Saraf.

Shri Thimmaiah (Kolar): Sir, I want to make a submission. The allotment of seats does not seem to have been done on a rational basis. Some of us who used to sit here . . .

Mr. Speaker: This cannot be decided here. He can come to my Chamber.

Shri Thimmaiah: Sir, you should kindly do something in the matter.

Mr. Speaker: He can see me in my Chamber if he has to put anything to me, but for his guidance I might say that so far as our Secretariat is concerned, we have reserved a block for hon. Members who belong to the

Congress Part. If they have any complaint, that is their internal affairs.

12:28½ hrs.

STATEMENT RE: RAILWAY ACCIDENT NEAR DHANBAD

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): Sir, with your permission I would like to make a statement on a serious accident

Shri Shyam Lal Saraf (Jammu and Kashmir): Sir, we have heard the hon Railway Minister . . .

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Minister of Railways wants to make a statement on a serious accident that has occurred

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Sir, with profound regret I have to inform the House about a level crossing accident which occurred last evening in which a number of lives were lost.

At about 18.45 hours on 23-4-62, when the shunting engine at Dhanbad goods yard was drawing a goods train in order to marshall it, the coupling of the seventh wagon from the rear end broke and the seven wagons to roll down from Dhanbad yard in the direction of Kusunda by the Up line towards the Level Crossing Gate at Naya Bazar Level Crossing which at that time was open for road traffic. Just at that time, a bus loaded with passengers and a truck happened to be crossing the railway track. The first wagon at the Kusunda end dashed into the road vehicles and dragged them to a distance of about 20 yards from the Gate.

As a result of the accident, 7 persons died on the spot. Another 39 were injured and were sent to the various hospitals in Dhanbad. Out of these 9 expired in the hospitals later. One person was discharged