

EDITORIAL

SANTHIA – ONE MORE CATESTROPHE

Dear Comrades;

Once again great hue and cry with the al-round fault finding attack on Rail workers. System failed. Pilot slept. Minister slept. Every body slept and here started the politicalisation of the accident. Every body condemning and cursing Railways setting aside the unexplainably worst that happened with the near and dear of those who died with those that are seriously injured and wounded. The only concern that matters is politics. This is the most unfortunate aspect of our system. It is our misfortune that the number of Rail workers dying accidentally while on duty is three times more than those dying in such accidents. Same thing happened in Santhia also where. One Guard, one Loco Pilot and another Asstt. Loco Pilot attained martyrdom in this accident.

This accident is unparalleled. Severn minutes earlier to the accident both the pilots of the train were awake and were quite alright but knowing very well that they have to halt at Santhia, a bridge where caution of 30kmph exists, the train ran at 90 kmph not caring for signals etc. which is not possible without intervention of any external element and it is because we have demanded CBI enquiry into this accident and also appealed to the politician of the country to refrain from such comments which are instrumental in making the zeal and spirit of Rail workers who are addicted to move the wheels of Railways under any type of condition rains, be it chilling cold or hot and humid conditions of summer.

Friends! Presently Kashmir is passing through a phase which is of deep concern to all. I had visited Srinagar last year and it will not be possible for us to forget the zeal and spirit shown by Kashmiries. But when Sopor Railway Station was attacked and power cabin burnt, when the Badgam Railway Colony was attacked and I began to receive the phone calls from frightened railway worker there, I felt heavily shocked and could not arrive at any conclusion regarding its reasons.

The attack on Railways at Srinagar is really an attack on the development of the country and must be handy work of enemies of India and those who are losers due to introduction of Railways there. Presently I have demanded safe evacuation of Railway Employees from troubled spots but I have a firm belief that condition will improve soon with the return of peace and we will be giving a befitting reply to the enemies of India and Kashmir moving the wheels of Railways and development.

(Shiva Gopal Mishra)