

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Thursday, 17th April, 1958.

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[Mr. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Closing of Road Bridge over River
Narmada at Broach

*1765. Shri Chandra Shankar: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Road Bridge over the River Narmada at Broach has been closed for the heavy traffic for the last two or more years;

(b) whether this has led to rendering the National Highway No. 8 from Bombay to Ahmedabad absolutely useless for heavy traffic; and

(c) whether Government propose to repair it immediately or provide other alternative means to remove this bottleneck?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) There is a provision in the current Five-Year Plan for the re-decking of the Bridge. Certain Protective Works have already been undertaken and it is proposed to watch the effect of these protective works in actual flood conditions before taking up the re-decking work. It is also proposed to provide a ferry-service in the meantime and Plans and

Estimates for this are under preparation.

Shri Chandra Shankar: In view of the scarcity declared in the whole of the District of Broach, may I know whether the Government propose to remove the bottleneck even temporarily till the monsoon sets in?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The strength of the bridge is limited and it has been ascertained after proper scientific tests that it will be hazardous for us to throw open the bridge for heavier traffic than allowed by scientific calculations, because that might endanger life and property.

Shri Chandra Shankar: May I know whether the actual foundation below the bridge has been damaged, excepting the scouring and, if so, do Government propose to construct a new one in place of this seventy-five year old bridge?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The bridge is a very old one. It was as far back as 1935 that the Railways gave it up and the Roads took it up for their use. But in 1955 it showed signs of cracking in the upper surface of it. Therefore it was kept out of use for quite a considerable time. It was only in August 1956 that it was reopened and since then only vehicles with limited weight are allowed over it.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member wants to know whether there is a proposal to demolish the bridge and construct one in its place.

Shri Raj Bahadur: As I said, the proposal is to have a new superstructure, but for that we have started with protective works. We want to see the results of the protective works, how they stand flood conditions. Unless that is ascertained, it will not be possible for us to make up our mind.

Shri Chandra Shankar: May I know whether there is anything wrong with the foundation?

Shri Raj Bahadur: That I cannot say at the moment, unless the tests are complete.

Mr. Speaker: Q. No. 1707, Shri D. C. Sharma. Hon. Members must call the question. Sometimes they may not call the question and save the hon. Minister of trouble.

Central Health Service

*1707. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 983 on the 11th December, 1957 and state the progress made so far in the constitution of the Central Health Service?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): A list of Officers suitable for appointment to various grades of the Central Health Service prepared by a Selection Committee has been approved by the Union Public Service Commission. Steps are now being taken to publish this list.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know what are the different grades of services to which the hon. Minister referred in his reply?

Shri Karmarkar: The different grades of service are Grades 1 to 5: Grade 1 Rs. 1,600 to Rs. 2,000; grade 2 Rs. 1,300 to Rs. 1,600; grade 3 Rs. 800 to Rs. 1,150; grade 4 Rs. 350 to 850 and grade 5 Rs. 260 to 500.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know why so many grades have been introduced, what is going to be the difference between one grade and another and whether promotion from one grade to another will be on natural or on efficiency basis?

Shri Karmarkar: It may be natural when a person from the lower grade is promoted to the higher grade. It will not be exactly natural when somebody is selected from outside. The grades are not artificially created

for this purpose. The grades were already there.

श्री चन्द्रा शंकर : यह जो सूची तैयार की जा रही है, यह केवल केन्द्रीय सरकार और केन्द्र साक्षित प्रदेशों, अर्थात् यूनियन टेरिटरीज, के लिये ही है या इसमें राज्य सरकारों की योग दे रही है ?

श्री करमरकर : यह केन्द्रीय सरकार के कर्मचारियों के लिये है ।

Shri Thimmalah: May we know whether any percentage of officers would be drawn from the State cadres as is done in the case of the I.A.S. and I.P.? Is any such proposal under consideration of Government?

Shri Karmarkar: I should certainly welcome that development. Our attempts are in that direction. But we have not had encouraging response from the States.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The Central Health Scheme is applicable to Central Government employees in Delhi. I have pointed out many times that it is not applicable to Defence employees of Delhi Cantonment. May I know whether this scheme for which this Central Service is being constituted would be made applicable to the Defence employees who are about 10,000 to 12,000?

Shri Karmarkar: All these details have been given in the notification, dated the 31st May 1956.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: It has not been given.

Shri Karmarkar: It is available in the library; it is printed already and published. It is Notification No. 3-2/56 Est., dated the 31st May 1956.

बम्बा में बन्दोबस्त का काम

*१७०८. **श्री पद्म देव :** क्या आज तक कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) बम्बा में बन्दोबस्त का काम कहाँ तक पूरा हो गया है ; और