LOK SABHA

Wednesday, December 14, 1960/Agrahayana 23, 1882 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

रुड़की-बद्रीनाथ सड़क

***८९२. श्री भक्त दर्शन** : क्या **परिवहन तथा संचार** मंत्री २१ अप्रैल, १९६० के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या १६१६ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) रुड़की हरिद्वार-जोशीमठ-बद्रीनाथ सड़क के निर्माण तथा विकास में अब तक क्या प्रगति हुई है ;

(ख) सड़क के प्रत्येक भाग के लिये मंजूर की गई राशि में से अबतक कितनी-कितनी राशि का भुगतान किया गया है ;

(ग) कीर्तिनगर और रुद्रप्रयाग के बीच की सड़क के विकास के लिये ९.८५ लाख रुपये के स्वीकृत अनुमानित व्यय के सम्बन्ध में अब तक क्या प्रगति हुई है ; और

(घ) जोशीमठ से बद्रीनाथ तक मोटर की सड़क बनाने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : (क) और (ख). इस सम्बन्ध में विवरण सभा-पटल पर प्रस्तुत है। [देखिये परिशिष्ट ३, अनुबन्ध संख्या ४२]

(ग) इस के लिये ठेका दिया गया है और सड़क चौड़ी करने का काम हाल ही में शुरू हुआ है ।

(घ) यह सूचना सार्वजनिक हित में देना ठीक नहीं है ।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : इस विवरण में बताया गया है कि जो ३८.६४ लाख रुपये भारत सरकार ने स्वीकार किये थे, उनमें से अभी तक ३०.६८५ लाख रुपये का ही उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार उपयोग कर सकी है । क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार इस प्रगति से सन्तुष्ट है और यदि नहीं तो क्या इस बारे में कुछ और तेजी से कदम उठाने का विचार किया जा रहा है ।

श्री राज बहादुर : ये कार्य स्वभावतः ही ऐसा है कि इसमें विलम्ब होता है क्यों कि इसके तखमीने बनाने में, तखमीनों की मंजूरी में, उनकी जांच में काफी समय लगता है । इसके अतिरिक्त ठेकेदारों की छांट में भी काफी समय लगता है । फिर बहुत से टुकड़े पहाड़ी हैं और इस प्रकार के हैं कि वहां भी कुछ समय लगता है । मगर मैं यह नहीं कह सकता कि हम सन्तुष्ट हैं उस प्रगति से । हमारी यही कोशिश है कि प्रगति की गति को कुछ और बढ़ाया जाये ।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : जोशीमठ से बद्रीनाथ की सड़क के बारे में कहा गया है कि इसके बारे में सूचना देना सार्वजनिक हित में ठीक नहीं होगा । पर कम से कम यह बतालाने की तो कृपा की जाये कि क्या सड़क बनाने के बारे में कोई निणय किया गया है या नहीं किया गया है, अर्थात् यह सड़क बनेगी भी या नहीं बनेगी ?

श्री राज बहादुर : अगर यही बता दिया जाये तो फिर मेरे ख्याल से बताने में कुछ बाकी नहीं रह जायेगा ।

Shri Bangshi Thakur: May I know whether any road construction is going on in Kedarnath also?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is a different thing.

Shri Goray: In view of the strategic importance of this particular road, will steps be taken early to see to it that it is expedited and completed?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Hon. Members are aware that border roads are the responsibility of the Border roads Development Board. I think it is in their jurisdiction to say something about them.

Shri Goray: Who is the Minister in charge of that? We must have the answer from somebody.

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): I would like to explain the position. The Prime Minister is Chairman of the Border Roads Development Board and the Defence Minister is Vice-Chairman. The Secretary of the Ministry of Transport is a member. The only thing is that questions are asked of us because the budget amount for these roads is put under the Transport Ministry. But if the hon. Member wants further information, it would be much better for him to table a separate question to the Boarder Roads Development Board, when either the Prime Minister or the Defence Minister will give a proper reply.

Shri Goray: When this question has been tabled, does it not become the duty of some Minister who is responsible for it to be present here?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Whatever information he wants, he should table the question to the proper Minister.

Shri Goray: The Minister concerned should be present here when the question is admitted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

Freight Rates

***893. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 173 on the 5th August, 1960 and state:

(a) whether Government have considered the proposal for taking statutory powers to regulate freight rates in overseas trade on the lines of the American law on the subject; and

(b) if so, the results thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). The question of taking statutory powers to regulate freight rates in overseas trade is still under examination in consultation with the Shipping interests concerned.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: In reply to the previous question, the hon. Minister said that this proposal would give protection to our export trade. In view of this factor, may I know what steps are being taken to expedite this matter?

Shri Raj Bahadur: This question was put to the Shipping Consultative Committee which consists of the representatives of Indian shipping companies as also foreign shipping companies. They have given their views. While the foreign shipping companies are, generally speaking, against it, the Indian shipping companies have said that it might be required. But at this moment, as I said, the proposal is under examination, and we would like to watch the situation.

Shri Tangamani: I would like to know whether Government propose to drop it altogether because of the differing views expressed.

Shri Raj Bahadur: No, there is no question of dropping it. As I said, the whole matter is under examination. The measure is needed or necessitated by our anxiety to remove such inhibitory factors as operate against the promotion of our exports. It is in that context that this question is being examined.