

Gazettes & Debates Section
Parliamentary Building
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THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

1853

1854

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Thursday, 17th July 1952

*The House met at a Quarter Past Eight
of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER, *in the Chair*]

MEMBER SWORN

Shri M. D. Ramaswamy: (Aruppukotta).

**ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS
SPECIAL AIR MAIL SERVICE**

*1833. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether the special Air mail service carries second class mails as well?

(b) Which are the countries that are being served by this special air mail at present?

(c) Are there any countries which are not connected to India for this special service?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Special air mail service was a term used to denote the conveyance by air of second class mail for foreign countries at rates of postage inclusive of air fee; it therefore refers to second class mail only.

(b) and (c). At present, this service is available to all countries of the world to which air mail service for first class mails is available, with the exception of Ceylon and Pakistan, for which countries the postage payable on second class mail conveyed by air is lower than the charge fixed under the special air mail service.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Was the Indian proposal for a uniform rate for carriage of mails of other countries on international lines accepted?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Since 1st December 1951 an agreed system is in vogue, and now the whole of the world has been divided into certain zones and the charges on mails and postage are levied on that basis.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Are there any mails which are carried at reduced rates by these special air mail services?

Shri Raj Bahadur: As I said, second class mails are carried at a reduced rate compared to first class mails which are also carried by air.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Were there any special reasons for the change-over from the Pan American Airways to the British Overseas Airways in the despatch of mails to Tokyo?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I do not think there was any special reason, but it came as a matter of consequence following certain changes introduced by U. K. in the system of conveyance of mails. As a matter of fact, U. K. came first of all with this system of conveyance of second class mails by air in 1949. Others followed suit. Therefore the B.O.A.C. should have been used. That is just what I as a matter of course suppose.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Has the distinction between European and non-European mails been abolished altogether, or does it exist still?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The whole thing is now based upon a certain zonal system which prescribes different rates for second class mails.

Shri Bansal: Am I right in thinking that second class air mails cover book posts?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It covers newspapers, printed papers, business papers, sample packets and literature for the blind.