

THE  
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES  
(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

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HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Monday, 7th, September, 1953

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

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

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

REMODELLING OF AHMEDABAD STATION

\*1071. **Shri Dabhi:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether Government are aware of the fact that there is an urgent necessity for the re-modelling of Ahmedabad Station?

(b) If so, when are Government going to commence the work of re-modelling?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) and (b). The Government has already considered the question of providing additional passenger amenities at Ahmedabad station. It would entail a thorough remodelling of the station at a cost of more than Rs. 1½ crores, which I am afraid will have to wait.

**Shri Dabhi:** May I know how long it will have to wait? May I know the approximate time when it will be taken up?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** We have not fixed any definite date. With the opening of the Kandla port and its subsequent development, we are watching the developments. We hope that traffic would be diverted to that side. We are studying the facts.

**Shri S. G. Parikh:** When was the present station designed and then remodelled?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** We cannot give the date offhand.

**Shri Dabhi:** May I know whether Government are aware of the fact that several metre gauge trains are to be stopped outside the yard because of want of accommodation and consequently passengers are put to great inconvenience?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** Yes; we are aware of that. We are thinking of shifting the metre gauge railway station and the yards to Asarva station.

IMPORT OF RICE FROM PAKISTAN

\*1072. **Shri Dabhi:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that sometime ago, there was a talk between the Governments of India and Pakistan for exchange of a certain quantity of Pakistan rice for Indian wheat?

(b) If so, what was the nature of the talk?

(c) What has been the result of the talk?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):** (a) Yes, Sir. The talk was for the exchange of Pakistan rice with wheat imported by India.

(b) The proposal originally was for a barter of one lakh tons of imported wheat against Pakistan rice.