

**Shri Karmarkar:** I know about the scheme but not about this particular detail. It looks likely but I am not sure.

**Building for G.P.O., New Delhi**

\*2083. **Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new building to house the General Post Office, New Delhi on Parliament Street is ready; and

(b) if so, when it is likely to be given to the General Post Office for use?

**The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil):** (a) A multistoried building has been constructed in Parliament Street.

(b) The requirements of accommodation have greatly increased since 1953 when the building was planned. According to the revised allocation, the G.P.O. will not be shifted to this building.

**Shri P. C. Borooah:** May I know if it is a fact that there was a proposal from the highest official of the Postal Department that the dissatisfied members of the public and the disgruntled members of the staff would find it easy to approach the senior officials if both the GPO and the P. & T Directorate were housed in the same building, and for that purpose the GPO was being shifted to the new building?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** I have not completely grasped the very long question. If it means that there would be some inconvenience, it is a fact, but we are trying to remove that inconvenience in other ways. It is a matter of planning in which it was thought that the administration and the other things should not be together. Therefore, we are making some other arrangements by which it can be done.

**Shri P. C. Borooah:** Is it a fact that the building was built specially to meet the requirements of the GPO?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** No, Sir. According to the original plan, only one-sixth space of the building was meant for the GPO. Out of 1,49,000 sq. ft., only 25,000 sq. ft. was meant for the GPO.

**श्री अक्षय वर्मान . क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि यह जो मल्टी-स्टोरीड बिल्डिंग बनाई गई है, इसमें दिल्ली के बड़े डाकघर को यदि नहीं हटाया जा रहा है, तो क्या कोई ऐसी तैयारी की जा रही है कि नई बिल्डिंग बनाई जाए, यदि हा, तो उसके लिए कौन से कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं ?**

**श्री स० का० पाटिल .** नहीं, आज तो इस प्रकार की योजना नहीं है। लेकिन योजना इस प्रकार की है कि भ्रमी का जो जी० पी० भ्रो० है, उसको डाउन-ग्रेड किया जाए, मतलब डिलिवरी पोस्ट आफिस बह हो लेकिन जी० पी० भ्रो० नहीं रहेगा। जो ईस्टर्न कोर्ट में और पोस्ट आफिस है वह जी० पी० भ्रो० बनेगा और उसके लिए ज्यादा जगह इधर उधर कुछ बिल्डिंग्स में—नई बिल्डिंग में नहीं—उसमें ही इधर उधर हेर फेर करके लेंगे और वह चीज बनेगी। कुछ आफिस जी० पी० भ्रो० के और ईस्टर्न कोर्ट के नई बिल्डिंग में आए हैं जैसे रिसर्च का है, वगैरह वगैरह। इस प्रकार की व्यवस्था हम करने जा रहे हैं।

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** What is the estimated cost of this new building that has been constructed in Parliament Street?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** I have, unfortunately, no figures of the cost here. If the hon Member puts a question I would give him the figure.

**Shri B. K. Galkwad:** My question has been partly covered. I want to know how much amount has been spent on the construction of the building.

**Shri S. K. Patil:** The answer is the same as I have given to him.

**Shri B. K. Galkwad:** There are two questions: what is the estimated cost of the building and second question is how much we have spent on it.

**Shri S. K. Patil:** Both require separate notices.

**Shri Dasappa:** What is the floor space required for the GPO and what is the floor space required for the Directorate?

**Mr. Speaker:** He said it is only one-sixth.

**Shri S. K. Patil:** I said it was only one-sixth. If the hon. Member wants, I may say that the calculation was that GPO, New Delhi, would require 25,850 sq. ft, DGPT 58,450, and there are many other things also, but the GPO as such was given one-sixth of the total space.

#### B.K. and A.K. Rail Services

\*2084. **Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the B.K. and A.K. Rail Services of West Bengal have been suspended by the Managing Agents;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) to (c). The Ministry of Railways is not directly concerned, but according to Press Reports, the train services on the Burdwan-Katwa and the Ahmadpur-Katwa private Railways were discontinued from 2nd April 1959 due to the workers having gone on strike after making certain demands in regard to their service conditions.

**Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:** May I know if the Government of India gives any grant or subsidy to this railway, and if so, what is the amount and how are the accounts supervised?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** We do not give any subsidy or loan. The position is that the Government of India had guaranteed a minimum return on

the capital-at-charge of these railways. That is the only interest that we have in that.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** May I know whether it is in the knowledge of the hon. Minister that the service conditions of the employees working in this railway excite more horror than pity; if so, whether Government would nationalise this railway in the larger interests of the country and those employees?

**The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** There is no proposal to take over the narrow gauge railway lines at present as has been repeatedly said in this House. As regards the service conditions, perhaps the hon. Member is aware that the dispute between the employees of the railway and the railway management was referred to adjudication last year and the award of the adjudicator is still in force.

#### Chambal Bridge

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\*2085. { **Shri Kunhan:**  
          **Shri A. K. Gopalan:**

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the construction of bridge over river Chambal near Dholpur in Rajasthan;

(b) whether Government have given notices to the workers terminating their services;

(c) if so, the number of workers served with notices; and

(d) the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) 91.2 per cent upto 31st March 1959.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Do not arise

**Shri Kunhan:** May I know what steps Government have taken to absorb these discharged workers in some other department?