

the point is something needs to be done. That is what I really wanted the House to tell me.

**DR. V. VENKATESH :** How long will it take ?

**MR. SPEAKER :** You give a Motion and we shall just get it discussed. What is the problem ? No problem.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS :** We are not getting good quality medicines.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Therefore, get it discussed early, Vyasji.

**SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO :** This question relates to strikes by doctors. The hon. Member is speaking about the general non-availability of medicines, but the issue is about strike.

**Repair and widening of bridges on Nagpur-Raipur National Highway.**

\*683. **SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :** Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to culverts being very old, frequent accidents occur on Nagpur-Raipur National Highway;

(b) whether there is any proposal for widening of the bridges on this National Highway and for repairing the uneven road in order to avoid accidents; and

(c) if so, the time by which this work is likely to be completed ?

[*English*]

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) :** (a) to (c) There are no reports of frequent accidents on this Section of National Highway No. 6 due to existence of old cross drainage works. However,

widening of the bridges to two lane width have been taken up and work on four bridges has been completed. Estimates for three bridges have been sanctioned recently. Proposals for four more bridges are under correspondence. Improvement of the roads is a continuous process and is taken up in a phased manner depending upon the inter-se priority and availability of resources.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has given a routine reply to my question. Frequent accidents occur on Nagpur-Raipur section of the National Highway No. 6 which connects Bombay with Calcutta. But the hon. Minister has replied that no reports of frequent accidents on this section of the highway have reached the Ministry of Surface Transport. Secondly, regarding culverts he has stated that their construction is undertaken on the basis of inter-se priority. I want to know from the hon. Minister as to how is this priority decided ? After how many accidents and after how many losses of lives is the construction work taken up ? The constituency of hon. Shri Narasimha Rao is located about 30 kms. away from the Nagpur-Raipur highway. Near Miyath village, industries with an investment of Rs. 400 crores have been set up here. It has increased the traffic in that area. The bridge is so narrow that traffic gets jammed here. Again, serious accidents have occurred on the bridge over Telinala near Sakana in which 30 persons have so far lost their lives, but the Ministry has no information about it. . . (*Interruptions*)...

I think it is the only culvert where 13 traffic signs have been put up like 'Drive slowly', 'Use brakes', 'Look to your left and to your right' but still accidents occur. The hon. Minister should go there and find out himself as to why the people are afraid to move on this road and why they move very slowly over there. I want to put a straight question to the hon. Minister and ask as to how long will you take to complete that culvert ?

**MR. SPEAKER :** The time likely to be taken for the construction of the culvert has been taken by you in putting a supplementary.

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not at all stated in my reply that the Ministry has no reports regarding accidents. I fully agree with the hon. Member that frequent accidents are occurring on account of it.

**MR. SPEAKER :** You are affected as well.

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT :** I agree that the bridge is not strong enough in comparison to the flow of traffic. We are not saying that accidents are not occurring. The National Highway No. 6 in Maharashtra is in a very poor condition. We admit this fact. We on behalf of the Government and the Ministry, have made efforts to provide double lanes on this National Highway and we have completed the work to a considerable extent. This highway comprises of two parts. One of its parts is in Maharashtra and another in Madhya Pradesh. The one in Madhya Pradesh includes the Nagpur-Raipur section about which the hon. Member has asked the question. In the Seventh Plan Rs. 10 crores have been allotted for it. There are 45 bridges on this section of the National Highway. Some of them are in a poor condition. We have repaired 23 of these bridges, and the repair work of 3 more bridges has been sanctioned and papers relating to an additional 4 bridges have reached in. In this way we have the work of 30 bridges under our charge and work regarding 15 bridges is yet to be undertaken. I am not saying that action will not be taken on them or that it should not be taken. I want to tell the hon. Member that the Central Government has many problems. We allot funds from the Centre, but the State Government, neither monitor nor utilise these funds properly. I have stated several times in the House that we have constraint of resources and whatever resources we are able to collect are not utilised by the State Governments properly and many States even surrender half of the amount allotted to them.

They go on shouting here till the 31st of March but when funds are allotted, they are not able to utilise the entire amount allocated for them. Government of Maharashtra has maintained three National Highways very well and it could have paid more attention to this one as well. I want to assure the hon. Member that I am prepared to accompany him whenever he likes.

**AN HON. MEMBER :** How many hon. Members will accompany you ?

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT :** If the hon. Member feels that the work will be accomplished if I visit the area, then I am always ready to go there. I want to inform him that we are getting this work done on a priority basis.

**SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :** From the hon. Minister's reply, we have come to know that funds have been allotted to the State Governments, but when we go to the states, they complain that they have not received funds from the Centre. I want to tell the hon. Minister that if he takes into confidence the people representing that particular region, many things will become clear. People link progress with the development of National Highways and wherever National Highways exist, the industrialists also want to set up their industries there. Therefore, a very important relationship exists between the development of a National Highway and that of the nation. I want to request the hon. Minister that the construction of this culvert is an important issue and if it is repaired, it will encourage development. As the hon. Minister has accepted that this National Highway is in a dilapidated condition and it is very unfortunate that it is in such a state. The hon. Minister is young, we are also young and we hope that he will provide assistance in this regard.

**MR. SPEAKER :** You are asking for such a small culvert, you could have asked for a big bridge.

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT :** So far as the question of resources is concerned,

we have earmarked Rs. 10 crores under the Seventh Five Year Plan and out of which Rs. 1.9 crores have already been sanctioned. As regards the rest of the funds, the State Governments can get it released whenever they require according to the procedure, but the amount which has already been sanctioned.....  
(Interruptions). Now look, the hon. Members are not listening and are engaged in conversation. So far as making a speech is concerned, I cannot compete with the hon. Member and I consider myself inferior to him in this respect. As regards the question of the bridge, I will personally look into it and inform the hon. Member about it.

**SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated that the states are not utilising the funds allocated by the Central Government properly. I want to know from the hon. Minister as to which of the states could not utilise the funds last year and have surrendered it and what punishment has been awarded to them and has the hon. Minister written to them about it? I want to know as to which are those states?

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I need more time to provide correct figures.

**MR. SPEAKER :** You may furnish the figures later.

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT :** I want to inform the House that in general we have written to all the states and we have started monitoring it in our own way and after reviewing the schemes we have asked for the details again.

[English]

Effect of Air India cabin crew 'work to rule' decision on services

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\*685. **SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU :**

**SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA :**

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the reported 'work to rule' decision announced by the Air India Cabin Crew Association;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and its effect on services; and

(c) the steps taken to bring about a settlement between the Management and the Association?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) :** (a) to (c) A statement giving the requisite information is given below.

#### Statement

(a) and (b) Air India, after discussions with the Air India Cabin Crew Association, introduced a revised pattern of operation on the India-Kuwait-India sectors with effect from 6th March, 1987, which would result in a savings of Rs. 36 lakhs per annum. However, the Cabin Crew Association, issued a directive to its members on 5th March, 1987 :-

- (1) not to operate flights if the crew complement is less than the required number.
- (2) not to operate flights if they are not a standby for the said flights.
- (3) not to operate flights beyond their flight duty time limitations.

As a result of the efforts of the Management to position trained personnel, during the period 20th March, 1987 to 2nd April, 1987, when the agitation was in progress, only 3 flights were delayed beyond 30 minutes and no flights were cancelled.

(c) The Air India Cabin Crew Association has since called off the agitation unconditionally with effect from 3rd April, 1987.