

LOK SABHA

Friday, 9th March, 1956

The Lok Sabha met at Half Past Ten of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

11-30 A.M.

LEAKAGE OF BUDGET PROPOSALS

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I promised a few days ago to keep the House informed about the enquiries that were being made in regard to the Budget leakage. I do not propose to make any full statement now, because we are in the process of getting some information. But, I should like to tell the House that considerable progress has been made in this enquiry and in fact, some arrests have also been made. I hope to make a fuller statement on Monday morning.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS RAILWAYS—contd.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now resume further discussion of the Demands for Grants in respect of Railways. Demands 4 and 5 were under discussion for which 4 hours have been allotted. Out of this about 1 hour and 55 minutes have been availed of yesterday and 2 hours and 5 minutes now remain. After the disposal of these Demands, the next group comprising Demands Nos. 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 will be taken up for which 3 hours have been agreed to.

Shri C. Bhatt will continue his speech.

Shri C. Bhatt (Broach): Yesterday when I was speaking on Demands 4 and 5, I was discussing the *modus operandi* of the administration. I said that for the last two years I have been trying to move the proper authorities to get latrines and urinals on the up platform of the Broach station. But I am surprised to find till today, there are no latrines.

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No materials have been collected and no erection has started. In a democracy we have to knock often and often. This time also I am approaching in the same spirit to knock as the biblical saying goes: 'Knock and it shall be opened'. I am knocking at the door of the Railway Ministry this time also so that my station may get latrines and urinals.

Last time, I wrote a letter to the proper authorities that the passengers from Ankleswar to Rajpipla were travelling in open wagons even in the hot season. Do you know what reply I received? I received a letter in which it was stated that my information is not correct. If the information is incorrect, it is for the authorities to go to the spot and see the things for themselves. When we come across such a state of affairs, it is our duty to bring it to the notice of the authorities. We get this type of reply. I think the authorities should go and see things for themselves.

On the Broach station, in the Western Railway, there are two clocks, one is on the down platform in the station and the other is outside the platform. That is a clock-tower. I have been seeing for the last 2 years, the tower shows only the dial; there are no arms. Nobody is making up a case for that. The arms should be set or the tower should be pulled down so that the offices may be accommodated. These are small matters. I shall now come to a bigger one.

Between Broach and Ankleswar there is a bottle-neck. The distance is only 6 or 7 miles. My district is divided into north and south, in two parts. In between, the Narbada river flows. There are two bridges. One belongs to the railways, which is a new one and the other belongs to a national highway No. 8 which belongs to the Central Government. Unfortunately, the P.W.D. has found out that there is a crack in the bridge. The bridge has been out of use for the last 9 months. Passengers are not allowed to go and even light traffic is not allowed to go. The whole burden falls on the railways. My suggestion is this; that there is a narrow gauge line