

appointed under the Family Welfare Programme at Various levels. These are provided to the eligible couples at P.H.Cs. and Sub-Centres and at the doorsteps of users during the field visit.

(ii) *Depot Holder* : Under this scheme, Nirodh are distributed in villages through the village Health Guides.

(iii) *Social Marketing* : Under this scheme, the Nirodh are sold at a highly subsidized price through outlets of the 12 Companies involved in social marketing.

Bridge at Keesara on National Railway Highway No. 9 in Andhra Pradesh

2598. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is also a fact that part of the bridge at Keesara on National Highway No. 9 in Krishna District of Andhra Pradesh was damaged in the recent past ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that as a result thereof the heavy vehicular traffic was diverted on alternative route compelling additional journey of 60 miles ; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to construct a 2-lane bridge to serve the traffic needs on the National Highway No. 9 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The heavy vehicular traffic was diverted on an alternative route necessitating journey of about additional 30 Kms.

(c) The proposal to construct a new bridge is under consideration of the Government.

Allotment of Stalls to Freedom Fighters

2599. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria for allotment of stalls on railway platforms ;

(b) whether the established norms are duly and strictly observed ;

(c) whether there is any provision to allot some such stalls to freedom fighters and in deserving cases of social workers ; and

(d) if not, who are given priority in such allotments ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) to (d) : Catering/vending contracts upto $\frac{1}{2}$ unit are exclusively reserved for Scheduled caste/scheduled tribe candidates. Larger contracts are awarded in the following order of preference :—

(i) Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes ;

(ii) Cooperative Societies of actual workers/vendors ;

(iii) Mahila Samities ;

(iv) Disabled ex-servicemen ;

(v) Individual unemployed graduates within the age group of 18 to 30 years ;

(vi) Freedom Fighters ; and

(vii) Others.

No catering/vending contracts, excepting fruit and fruit juice stalls, are allotted at stations where there is comprehensive departmental catering.