

Sir, reply is as follows:

The existing Arabo bridge constructed more than 40 years back, with two piers and cantilever at both ends support on abutments. The abutment on Mandrem side has settled and during this monsoon the parapet wall has developed minor cracks. The same shall be attended to after the monsoons. However, the bridge is strong and safe for vehicular use.

The existing bridge is narrow in width, measuring around 4 to 4.5 meters and 5.5 metres in length. Presently there is no scope for widening of the bridge due to habitation on Arabo side. However land acquisition has to done separately and bridge of higher width has to be constructed. Presently there is no such proposal. However I will ask the Department to select the site and initiate land acquisition process, to construct a new bridge.