

The Government naturally condemn any such moves if they have a basis in fact.

Acquisition of land at Baroda

765. Shri Manibhai J. Patel: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Baroda Municipal Corporation has applied for the acquisition of a piece of land under his Ministry for constructing an overhead bridge at Baroda near Alembic works;

(b) whether the British High Commissioner has given no objection certificate for the piece of land as there is a cemetery allotted to British High Commission over that land; and

(c) whether Government propose to acquire that land for the bridge?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Swaran Singh): (a) A request for transfer of a piece of land from out of the area known as the 'Baroda Government Cemetery' was received in March 1967 from the Municipal Corporation, Baroda through the British High Commission for construction of approaches to a Railway overbridge.

(b) The British High Commission have communicated their 'no objection' to the use of the Cemetery land for purposes of constructing approaches to the proposed Railway overbridge on conditions agreed with the Municipal Corporation, Baroda.

(c) Since the land in question belongs to Government, there is no question of acquisition of the land. The State Government have been informed that Defence Ministry has no objection to the construction of the proposed over-bridge on conditions stated therein.

Tension between Arab Nations and Israel

766. Shri Maharaj Singh Bharti:
Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to lessen the increasing tension between the Arab Nations and Israel;

(b) whether any exchange of views took place on the Syria-Israel problem during his recent visit to the Arab Countries; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) to (c). I spent two days in Kuwait and made transit halts at Beirut and Baghdad during my recent tour. Discussions on Arab-Israeli issues with Arab leaders were not in the context of the present crisis which developed later. The Government of India is deeply concerned at the grave situation that has developed in West Asia and fully supports the efforts of the United Nations Secretary General to maintain peace in the region.

High Power Transmitter for Gauhati (Assam)

767. Shri Bedabrata Barua: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to instal a high-power transmitter at Gauhati in place of the existing inadequate transmitter at an early date; and

(b) if so, when and what will be its power in Kilowatts?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri K. K. Shaha): (a) No, Sir. Gauhati has enough transmitters of necessary capacity.

(b) Does not arise.