

AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU) (a) The Embassy in Islamabad

- (i) maintains contact with media representatives in the major cities of Pakistan,
- (ii) assists Indian and Pakistani journalists, musicians, artists and professors visiting each other's country and
- (iii) organises from time to time cultural and musical evenings, film shows and lectures

(b) Because of local restrictions the Embassy is unable to issue press releases and news bulletins on a regular basis. It brings out and distributes bulletins on special occasions like visits etc. but sends Indian journals, publications and publicity material to selected persons from time to time.

(c) The Ministry of External Affairs is actively considering strengthening the staff in the Embassy at Islamabad and the Consulate General in Karachi for publicity work.

Conversion of Narrow gauge Lines

7613 **SHRI GIRIDHAR GO-MANGO** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) how many of the narrow gauge lines have been converted into metre gauge and broad gauge, so far, and

(b) number of narrow gauge lines to be converted into metre gauge and broad gauge lines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (**SHRI SHEO NARAIN**) (a) and (b) Conversion of 44.64 Kms long section from Nadiad to Kapadvanj on the Western Railway is the only project of gauge conversion from NG to BG which has been approved so far at an estimated cost of Rs 4.05 crores as a part of the project for constructing a BG line upto Modasa. The question of taking up conversion of NG lines into BG in future will depend upon traffic requirements and availability of resources.

Quarters for Staff at Baroda Railway Station

7614 **SHRI AMARSINH V RA-THAWA** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) the number of Class II, III and IV employees working at Baroda Railway Station,

(b) whether there is any proposal to construct more quarters for railway employees at Baroda Railway Station, and

(c) if so, their number category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (**SHRI SHEO NARAIN**):

(a) Class II	Nil
Class III	503
Class IV	773
(b) Yes	

(c) There is a proposal to construct 6 units of type I, 10 units type II and 4 units type III quarters at this station. Construction of quarters is a continuing process depending upon the requirements and availability of funds. Construction of more quarters will be considered for inclusion in future years Works Programme.

Health Pact with Bahrain

7615 **SHRI PABITRA MOHAN PRADHAN** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether there has been a Health Pact in between India and Bahrain, and

(b) if so what are the subjects for which the pact has been made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (**SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU**) (a) No formal Health Pact has been signed between India and Bahrain. However, Agreed Minutes were signed during the visit of the Minister of Health of Bahrain, who visited India from 20-2-1979 to 7-3-1979.

(b) The Agreed Minutes include recruitment of doctors and other categories of para-medical staff, training of Bahraini students in medical fields, procurement of drugs, medicines and hospital equipment from India, recruitment of nurses from India and training of Bahraini students in the field of nursing. In addition, visits by specialists from India for participation in scientific seminars in Bahrain etc. was also agreed to.

Railway Station Porters' Cooperative Society, Allahabad

7616 **SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the parcel handling contract held by Railway Station Porters' Cooperative Society Allahabad was terminated in June 1978 for continuous unsatisfactory working,