

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF RAILWAYS AND EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c). A statement is attached.

The Indian Railway Conference Association, an autonomous body, has been assigned the following functions connected with the Railways:

1. to frame rules for the management of traffic interchanged between Railways;

2. to act as a Board of Conciliation;

3. to maintain records of wagon interchanged and hire charges, Broad Gauge and Metre Gauge separately between Indian Railways, as well as between Indian Railways and Railways in Pakistan and Bangladesh, as directed by the Railway Board;

4. to conduct the Neutral Control of examination of Broad and Metre Gauge wagons at nominated interchange junctions, yards, workshops and sick lines;

5. to render advice on other subjects relating to Railways which may be referred to it by member Railways or Railway Board; and

6. to carry out such other functions as may, from time to time, be assigned to it.

The budget grants for I.R.C.A. are charged to the revenue accounts of the Railways who are party to the Indian Railway Conference Association.

There is no difference in scales of pay and allowances paid to the I.R.C.A. Staff and to staff working on Zonal Railways. The staff of I.R.C.A. have generally been given the same facilities and amenities as given to the Railway employees except the facility of house building advance and new Group Insurance Scheme applicable to Central Government employees on the ground that I.R.C.A. staff are not Central Government staff.

There is no proposal to alter the present status of I.R.C.A.

### Property Left Behind by Indians in Kampuchea

4239. SHRI C. D. PATEL:

SHRI AHMED MOHAMMED PATEL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many Indians left behind their shops, goods, properties, Cash, bank balances and all their assets, because they had to leave the Kampuchea when Prince Sihanouk was overthrown by Khmer Rouge forces; and

(b) if so, details of action taken on this score?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) and (b). It is true that most foreigners, including Indian nationals, had to leave behind their assets following the overthrow of the then government of Cambodia in April, 1975. The Government of India have received some representations from some of these Indian nationals seeking compensation in respect of property left behind by them. The matter could not be pursued earlier because there were no diplomatic relations between India and the regime that had come to power in Kampuchea. But India has recognised the Heng Samrin Government last year and an Embassy was also opened there earlier this year. The matter is therefore being pursued further.

### Upgradation of Gate No. 179 (Western Railway)

4240. SHRI AHMED MOHAMMED PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that Gate No. 179 between Bharuch and Nalpur (Western Railway) on Broad Gauge line is not open to road traffic after 19.00 hrs.;