

Sino-India relations

(b) if so, what progress has so far been made in that direction?

850. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

SHRI JAINARAYAN ROAT:

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any further developments have taken place towards normalisation of relations between India and China during the past three months; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) and (b) Government have continued their efforts to improve relations with China and settle all outstanding problems, including the boundary question. The third session of the officials talks with China was held in Beijing from January 29 to February 2. In addition, in the last three months, the two sides exchanged a number of delegations in the fields of health, culture, science and social sciences.

Indo-Pak Peace and friendship treaty

851. SHRI MADHAVRAO
SCINDIA:

SHRI P. M. SAYEED:

SHRI K. MALLANNA:

SHRI CHITTA BASU:

SHRI MOHANLAL PATEL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that following the last Summit meet between the Indian Prime Minister and President Zia-Ul-Haq of Pakistan, progress has been made towards concluding a peace and friendship treaty between the two countries and economic-cooperation agreement; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) and (b) In pursuance of the instructions issued by the two Heads of Governments after their meeting on November 1, 1982, the draft agreement of Indo-Pak Joint Commission was initialled on 24th December 1982 and will be signed by the two Foreign Ministers during the forthcoming Non-aligned Summit in March. Discussions have also been held on our proposal for a Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation and Pakistan's No War Pact proposal. These are expected to continue.

Palace on wheels

852. SHRI MADHAVRAO
SCINDIA:

SHRI ASHFAQ HUSSAIN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 'Palace on Wheels' has since been dressed up and its commercial runs started;

(b) if so, how far and in what respect the 'Palace on Wheels' now started is different from the initial plan; and

(c) what is the expenditure incurred in refurbishing it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes.

(b) There is no basic difference in design and facilities except that capacity has been increased from 96 to 102 tourist berths to meet the increasing tourist demand.

(c) Expenditure incurred by Railways is estimated at Rs. 77.15 lakhs on renovation of carriages.