there was no under-billing resulting in any loss to Indian Airlines.

Manned Level Crossing in Barmer

5226.COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have received any representation regarding opening of manned level crossing in Barmer district of Rajasthan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and whether the Government have sought the concurrence of State Government to bear the expenses for manned crossings;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The details of locations where level crossings have been demanded in Barmer Distt. are as under:-

S.No LOCATION

- Provision of level crossing at km 737/2-3(736/12-13) between Balotra-Janiyana.
- Level crossing at km 784/11-12 between Baytu-Bhimarial
- Upgradation of 'D' class cattle level crossing No. 337 at km 890/6-7 between Ramsar-Gadra road.
- Manned level crossing at km 854/2-3 between Jassi-Bhachbhar.

Dening of new manned level crossing, required by the State Govt., can be provided subject to feasibility, visibility from safety point of view, only on 'deposit' terms i.e. authority requesting for the same has to bear all the costs, initial capital as well as annual recurring maintenance cost. No such proposal has yet been received by the Railway either from State Govt. or from local body. As soon as, the proposals for the same are sponsored, prompt action will be taken by the Railways.

[Translation]

Allotment to the Employees of Political Parties

5227. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH:
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOY-MENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court has issued guidelines regarding allotment of residential accommodation to the employees of the political Parliamentary party offices:
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reasons for not allotting the accommodation sanctioned earlier as yet even after one year of the Supreme Court verdict?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its Judgement dated 23.12.1996 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 585/94 directed that revised guidelines may be framed for allotment of Government accommodation to political parties and the Government and the Government should abide, regarding the number of units to be allotted by the advice to be given by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha and the Vice Chairman of Rajya Sabha. The revised guidelines are under formulation in consultation with Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha Secretariat.

[English]

Indo-Chinese Disputes

5228. SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indo-China Joint Working Group has failed to make any headway in their talks held on June 8 and 9, 1998.
- (b) if so, the briefs of the outcome thereof and the scheduled date, if any, fixed for the next meeting;
- (c) whether instead of lessening the tension on the Indo-China border, the Chinese Government is increasing their activities in Burma and other neighbouring countries to encircle India, and
- (d) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to strengthen the borders between India and China and also Burma?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) No meeting of the India-China Joint Working Group was held on 8th and 9th June, 1998. However, a meeting of the India-China Expert Group (EG) of diplomatic and military official was held on 8th and 9th June, 1998. This was a functional meeting at the working level and issues of mutual concern were discussed including the current state of bilateral relations. No progress could be made on the issues under the mandate of the EG at this meeting.

2. No date for the next EG or JWG has been fixed as yet.