THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Various options are being explored, before any conclusion is reached.

## Labourers working under contractors in railways

911. SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN:

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of labourers working under contractors in different sectors of Railways;

(b) whether these contractors have labour licences; and

(c) whether these labourers get minimum wages and covered under social security schemes of Ministry of Labour, *viz.* P.F., Gratuity, E.S.I, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Tender Conditions and General Conditions of contract stipulate that a contractor shall comply with the provisions of the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970 / Rules 1971 as amended from time to time. The contract labour are paid the minimum wages as per notifications issued by the Central / State Governments under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 and are also covered under social security schemes of Ministry of Labour as per extant Acts.

## Construction of new rail lines in Gujarat

912. SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI:

SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has submitted a proposal in February, 2008 for construction of 10 new railway lines spread over various sectors of the State and also providing required funds for the same;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) As per available records, no such proposal has been received from State Government of Gujarat.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

## Gauge conversion of Bhiladi-Samdari rail line

913. SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI: SHRI NATUJIHALAJI THAKOR: SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

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