

(b) if so, what are details of issues discussed with him;

(c) whether the discussions have strengthened bilateral relations between the two countries;

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(e) whether certain areas of trade were also discussed; and

(f) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO):** (a) Yes, Sir. Prime Minister of Kampuchea, HE Mr. Hun Sen visited New Delhi from 16th to 17th November, 1988.

(b) Mr. Hun Sen, the Prime Minister of Kampuchea had official talks with the Prime Minister and called on the President. He also met the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, and the Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri K. Natwar Singh. The talks related to recent developments on the Kampuchean issue, following Premier Hun Sen's talks in Paris with Prince Sihanouk and Son Sann. Bilateral matters were also discussed.

(c) to (f) Yes, Sir. Proposals for further economic and commercial co-operation were considered.

**Alleged discourtesy to Mr. Wole Soyinka**

**3242. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no representative, either from the Ministry or the Nehru Memorial Fund, was present at the Delhi Airport to receive the Nobel Laureates, Mr. Wole Soyinka who was invited to deliver this year's Nehru Memorial Lectures and he had to make his own arrangements; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for this lapse and what action has been taken by Government against those responsible for the discourtesy shown to the guest?

**THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO):** (a) and (b) The representatives of the Ministry of External Affairs were present at the airport to receive Prof. Wole Soyinka. However, due to change of flight of which he did not intimated he could not be received at the airport.

Immediately after his arrival, Prof. Soyinka was contacted and all courtesies and facilities were extended to him. He expressed his appreciation in this regard.

**Batote-Kishtwar National Highway**

**3243. SHRI DHARAM PAL:** Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total estimated expenditure on Batote-Kishtwar National Highway in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) what is the expenditure incurred on this road upto the end of October, 1988;

(c) whether Government propose to enquire into the allegations of misappropriation and bunglings in execution of work on the said road; and

(d) whether Government propose to take up the execution of the work on this road, in view of the complaints of misappropriation of funds and inordinate delay in completion thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT):** (a) and (b) Against the estimated cost of construction of about Rs. 37 crores, an expenditure of Rs. 29,608 crores has been reported ending October, 1988.

(c) and (d) No such allegations have been reported to us. The question of handing over the road to Border Roads Organisation has been referred to the State Government for their concurrence. The Government is however keen to complete the road by 1990-91.

#### Approval to Ring Road in Jabalpur

3244. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the construction work on Ring Road in Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh has been pending for years; if so, whether this scheme has since been approved by the Central Government;

(b) if so, when it was approved and what are the reasons for delay in its implementation;

(c) what is the estimated cost of this scheme and the amount sanctioned and allocated, so far; and

(d) by when the construction work is expected to be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (d) Of the 22.4 Km length of the Bypass, work of 5.9 Kms forming approaches to the aqueduct cum high level bridge across Tilwaraghat sanctioned for Rs. 177 lakhs in February 1985 is in progress. Alignment for remaining length has since been approved and land acquisition estimate sanctioned for Rs. 78.88 lakhs in June 1988. Acquisition proceedings are in progress. Construction work is expected to be taken up during the 8th Plan.

#### Sale of railway land in Bombay

3245. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be

pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to sell the railway land or to build commercial complexes thereon in Bombay, in order to raise resources; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the said projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) There is no proposal to sell railway land in Bombay area. There is, however, a proposal to undertake a pilot project of building a railway office-cum-commercial complex on railway and at Bandra with a view to commercially exploit the airspace and generate resources for development of major railway projects in Bombay area.

#### Handing over of handling job to British Airways at London by the Air India

3246. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 4236 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 31st August, 1988 and state:

(a) whether Government's decision to contract out passenger and ramp handling in London to British Airways would lead to retrenchment of a large number of Air India staff; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for taking this decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) For some years Air India had been unsuccessfully trying to obtain more check in counters at Heathrow Airport, London. It was also found necessary to augment the work force and invest in additional ground handling equipment at considerable cost to cater to the demands of increased Air India operations to London. Therefore, it was