

10 years ago and how many at present; and

(e) whether the Government have any scheme to regularise the substitute coach attendants and if so, what is the said scheme and how far that has been implemented in the Eastern Railway.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (e). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Staff strength of Indian Mission in Saudi Arabia

2241. SHRI D. S. A. SIVAPRAKASHAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the staff strength in the Indian Mission in Saudi Arabia at present;

(b) whether the staff strength of India's Saudi Arabia Mission has been increased; and

(c) whether with this strength the Mission is able to establish contact with Indians in that country?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) The present strength of our Mission in Jeddah is 79.

(b) Yes, Sir. The staff strength has been increased by 25 officials over the last three years.

(c) In the Government's view the Mission's strength is adequate to meet the demands made on it, including the needs of the Indian community living in Saudi Arabia.

Confirmation/Regularisation of Inspectors of Delhi Food Adulteration Department

2242. SHRI HIRALAL R. PARMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Inspectors in pay scale of Rs. 425-700 were appointed on regular basis in the Prevention of Food Adulteration Department of Delhi Administration in August, 1977 after completing all necessary formalities and were then getting regular benefits of annual increments, medical facilities, earned leave etc. since their appointments;

(b) whether instead of confirming them, their services have been regularised w.e.f. May, 1978 and if so, the name of the Department on the strength of which these Inspectors were shown from August 1977 to April, 1978;

(c) The reasons as to why the names of these Inspectors are being excluded from the combined seniority List of Delhi Administration and included in ex-cadre posts although the ex-cadre posts carry higher pay scale;

(d) whether these Inspectors will now become junior to the Inspectors in the combined seniority list; and

(e) the steps being taken to ensure justice to the inspectors?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI KUMUD-BEN M. JOSHI): (a) to (c). Delhi Administration have stated that Food Inspectors were appointed on *ad-hoc* and not on regular basis at different dates between 27-6-77 to 2-9-77 pending finalisation of Recruitment Rules. Even *ad-hoc* appointees are given benefits of annual increments, medical facilities, earned leave etc. The Recruitment Rules for the post of Food Inspectors were notified on 4.5.78. All those Inspectors who were working on *ad-hoc* basis were regularised by the Staff Selection Board w.e.f. 4.5.78. The incumbents can be declared permanent only when the posts are converted into permanent posts. These Inspectors were on the strength of the department of PFA during the period of their appointment on *ad-hoc* basis from 27.6.77 till 3.5.78. These posts of Inspectors in the PFA Department are Class-III ex-cadre posts which do not form part of the Joint Cadre of Inspectors of the Delhi Administration by vir-