

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : I will look into it.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : The words used by the Minister, I will look into.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

**Delhi-Bombay Flight Via Allahabad**

\*44. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Allahabad-Delhi flight has been regularised and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the Government are considering to introduce a flight from Delhi to Bombay via Allahabad; and

(c) if so, when it is likely to be introduced ?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK) : (a) Indian Airlines has temporarily suspended its service to Allahabad because of operational constraints.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been stated by the Hon. Minister that Indian Airlines has temporarily suspended its services to

Allahabad because of operational constraints. I would like to know those operational constraints and the time by which the services to Allahabad will be restored by removing those constraints ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Member is aware that the gulf-war started in August 1990 and a big number of our aircraft were deployed to repatriate the Indians residing there. Particularly, the Air-buses were used there. To maintain the services on high density routes, the Boeing 737 were withdrawn from the low density routes and that is why the service to Allahabad was temporarily suspended.

SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very simple issue. Now, there is no chance of Gulf like situation arising. Keeping the reply now given by the Hon. Minister in view, I would like to request him to restore the Airlines services to Allahabad by considering the issue sympathetically so that the people get the facility of air transport.

SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to assure the Hon. Member that we would make attempts to consider each and every issue sympathetically. Some local residents of Allahabad also came to see us in this regard. Some Congressmen also came to me and said a lot of things in this regard. For the last two weeks, we have been making efforts to review the issue and I would like to tell the Hon. Member that the

demands raised by the local residents and the Congressmen are under consideration . . . (*Interruptions*). What I am saying is true. (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN :** Only the Congress people are saying and no one else ? (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV :** This matter is not related only to the Congress, but it relates to the public.

[*English*]

The Minister must know this. Mr. Speaker, kindly organise a refresher course for the Ministers. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

**SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have presented the factual position before the House. Some of the Member here only believe in making noise. And some other Members believe in carrying out concrete programmes. Therefore, I presented the factual position here and if the Hon. Members are not interested in listening to what I am going to say, I will not say.

**SHRI HARIN PATHAK :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism said that the aircraft were used in repatriating the Indians during the Gulf-War.

[*English*]

**MR. SPEAKER :** This is a very limited question relating only to Allahabad, Bombay and Delhi. You will be allowed to ask the question relating only to that.

**SHRI HARIN PATHAK :** That is why I am asking this question regarding the accommodation.

[*Translation*]

The Indians, who were repatriated from the Gulf countries, were asked to furnish a bond that they would pay the entire fare when they go back. Through you, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the fares have been collected from them and have been deposited in the Treasury after the end of the Gulf war ?

[*English*]

**MR. SPEAKER :** This does not relate to this question. If you want to reply I have no objection.

**SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA :** I do not necessarily want to reply to this question because, as you said, it does not relate to this question. But earlier I was interrupted due to other reasons. I just wanted to say that we have sympathetically considered the demand of those people belonging to a particular party who came from Allahabad. I will not name that party. Those people did demand that this Allahabad service should be restored. From the 1st of August we are, on their demand, intending to restore that service twice a week from Delhi to Kanpur and Allahabad and then back to Delhi.

**SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, during the Prime Ministership of Shri V.P. Singh, air services had been withdrawn to many places in remote areas. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether he would like to consider all such

cases for restoring the air services, particularly to Andaman and Nicobar Islands in the near future.

**SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA :**

Sir, the Hon. Member's suggestions and sentiments have been noted.

[Translation]

**Conversion and Doubling of Metre Gauge Lines**

\*45. **SHRI RAJVEER SINGH :**  
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to convert the metre-gauge lines into broad-gauge ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether a decision has also been taken to double some metre-gauge lines ;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the expenditure involved therein ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the alternative steps being taken to provide additional travel facilities to the passengers ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**STATEMENT**

(a) Conversion of Metre Gauge Lines to Broad Gauge is taken up considering merits of each case. Such works are included in the budget after obtaining the approval of Planning Commission. The works are taken up after approval of the Budget by the Parliament.

(b) Details of Gauge Conversion works currently in progress are given below :—

Serial No.	Name of project	Km.
1	2	3
1	Phulera—Bikaner (Lalgarh) and Merta Road—Jodhpur	430
2	Bhildi—Samdari and parallel BG line from Samdari—Jodhpur	303
3	Chhapra—Arrah	171
4	Salempur—Barhajbazar	21
5	Samastipur—Darbhanga	37
6	Kashipur—Lalkua	60
7	Mysore—Bangalore	138
8	Manmad—Parbhani—Parlivaajnath	354
9	Parbhani—Purna & Mudkhed—Adilabad and parallel BG from Purna—Mudkhed	248
10	Sawaimadhopur—Jaipur & parallel BG line from Jaipur—Phulera	187
11	Bhildi—Viramgam New Line/Conversion	145
12	Nadiad—Kapadvanj	45

(c) Doubling of existing single line sections whether on Broad Gauge or Metre Gauge is taken up to improve the carrying capacity on saturated sections.

(d) Doubling of 31 km Metre Gauge line on Delhi-Rewari section is in progress. 21 km between Garhi

Harsaru and Pataudi Road has been completed and 10 km. between Pataudi Road and Khalilpur is yet to be opened. Cost of this work is anticipated to be Rs. 19.82 crores.

(e) Upgradation for line capacity augmentation by improving track, standard of signalling etc. is being