

Demand

Government's reaction thereto

10. Government should think of converting the Indian Railways into an autonomous corporation and provide effective voice for labour in determining its policies and programmes. The NFIR should be consulted before any restructuring of the Railway Board is done.

The question of converting the Indian Railways into an autonomous corporation was examined in the past and was not found feasible or desirable. An announcement regarding restructuring of the Railway Board has already been made in the Rajya Sabha on December 6, 1977.

Laying of railway line in Mizoram

*565. SHRI LALBUAIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to lay a railway line in Mizoram; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) and (b) Preliminary Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey for construction of railway line from Lalaghat/Lalabazar to Sairong is in progress and further consideration to this project will be given after the survey is completed and reports thereof are examined from all angles, subject to availability of funds for the purpose.

Cases against M/s. Bata Shoe Co. Private Limited

*566. SHRI KALYAN ROY:

SHRI BIR CHANDRA DEB BURMAN:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Company Affairs and the Registrar of Companies, Calcutta, have filed a number of cases against M/s. Bata Shoe Company Private Limited;

(b) if so, what is the number of such cases, when they were filed and

what are the other details in respect of each such case; and

(c) what is the progress in each of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) Yes, Sir, Cases were filed by the Registrar of Companies, Calcutta.

(b) and (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

On 20th May, 1976 the Registrar of Companies, Calcutta filed 12 complaints under section 420 of the Companies Act against the concerned Directors and Secretary of M/s. Bata Shoe Company Ltd., Calcutta for defaults in complying with the provisions of sub-section (4) of section 418 of the Companies Act, 1956. 11 complaints related to delay in depositing provident fund contributions in respect of employees of Calcutta Office of the company for the months of February to September, 1973, November and December, 1973 and April 1974 and the 12th complaint was in respect of the employees of Mokhamaghat Factory of the company for the month of November, 1973.

Applications under section 473 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 were also moved by the Registrar of Companies for condonation of delay in filing the complaints. The Court was pleased to condone the delay provisionally with leave to the accused to canvass the bar of limitation on appearance. The case was transferred to the 10th Metropolitan Magistrate on