

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM (SHRI KESHAV DEO MALAVIYA): (a) and (b) India has not offered assistance to Vietnam for off-shore oil exploration. However, India has offered facilities to train Vietnamese personnel in different branches of oil industry in Institutes located in India or by sending Indian experts to Vietnam. The reaction of the Vietnam Government has not yet been received.

Electrification of railway lines in Kerala

252. SHRIMATI LEELA DAMODARA MENON: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Central Government have received any proposal from the Government of Kerala for electrification of railway lines in that State; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by the Central Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SARDAR BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Cost-cum-feasibility survey for electrification of Olavakkot-Trivandrum section at a cost of Rs. 50,000 to be borne by the State Government has recently been sanctioned.

Inter-union rivalry in the South Eastern Railway

253. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that work in the South Eastern Railway has been adversely affected due to inter-union rivalry; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS: (SHRI MOHAMMAD SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Railway work is not affected by the internal differences in the unions on South Eastern Railway.

(b) Does not arise.

Foreign Equity Holdings of Hindustan Lever Ltd.

*254. SHRI BHOLA PRASAD:

SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA:

SHRI JAGJIT SINGH ANAND:

SHRI BIR CHANDRA DEB BURMAN:

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

(a) whether the Hindustan Lever Limited has been violating Government's direction in regard to dilution of its foreign equity holdings; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): (a) According to the information furnished by the Ministry of finance the company has made an application for dilution of its foreign equity which is under the consideration of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Wheel and Axle Plant at Yelahanka

255. SHRI H. S. NARASIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for delay in completing the Wheel and Axle Plant project at Yelahanka in Karnataka; and

(b) what is the total amount so far spent for acquisition of land for the Project and for provision of water connections to the project area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHAMMAD SHAFI QURESHI): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) In view of the slightly improved trend of production in Durgapur Wheel and Axle Plant and also due to increase in the estimated cost of the Project, the