THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) and (b) While no separate cell specifically for dealing with the employees who participated in the strike has been set up, all steps will be taken to see that the cases of affected employees are dealt with expeditiously.

Suggestions made by Chairman MRTPC for arresting price rise

956. SHRI SHYAMLAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Chairman, MRTP Commission has suggested that studies be made in profitability ratio of certain key industries for arresting the price rise; and
- (b) if so, what are the details of the suggestions made and what is Government's decision on these suggestions?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

यवतमाल-मुर्तिजापूर छोटी लाइन का अधिग्रहण

957. श्रीः देवराव पाटिल : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

- (क) क्या सरकार ने यवतमाल-मूर्तीजा-पुर छोटी लाइन को अपने हाथ में लेने के संबंध में कोई निर्णय किया है: और
- (ख) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण है ?

†[Taking over of Yeotmal-Murtajapur N.G.

957. ŞHRI DEORAO PATJL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have since taken a decision regarding taking over of Yeotmal-Murtajapur narrow gauge line; and
- (b) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री: मोहम्मद शफी कुरेशी): (क) और (ख) इस लाइन की खरीद के प्रश्न पर 1967 में विचार किया गया था । चूंकि यह प्रस्ताव अर्थक्षम नहीं पाया गया अतः इसकी खरीद न करने का विनिश्चय किया गया । इस लाइन की खरीद का आगामी विकल्प 1977 में पड़ता है ।

†[THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) and (b) The purchase of this line was considered in 1967. Since the proposal was not found financially viable, it was decided not to take over the line. The next option to purchase the line is due in 1977.]

पश्चिमी क्षेत्र में तेल शोधक कारखाना

958. श्री देवराव पाटिल: क्या पैट्रो-लियम ओर रसायन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

- (क) क्या पश्चिमी क्षेत्र में तेल शोधक कारखाना स्थापित करने का कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है; और
- (ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

†[Oil Refinery in the Western Region

958. SHRI DEORAO PATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up an oil refinery in the Western Region; and (b) if so, what are the details thereof?]

पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाह नवाज खां): (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न नही उठता ।

†[THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHR1 SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.]

Number of Joint Stock Companies in Delhi

959. DR. Z. A. AHMAD: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Joint Stock Companies functioning in Delhi at the end of 1972-73 and 1973-74 year-wise;
- (b) the total paid-up capital of these Companies at the end of said years; and
- (c) the Joint Stock Companies set up during that period along with the particulars of their paid-up capital?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDA-BRATA BARUA): (a) and (b) The number and paid-up capital of Joint Stock Companies limited by shares functioning in the State of Delhi as on 31-3-73 and 31-3-74 are given below:

(Capital in Rs. crores)

As on		No. of companies		Paid-up capital
31-3-73	,		3734	592.3
31-3-74			4300	584.2

⁽c) During 1972-73, 451 companies with an authorised capital of Rs. 2056.1

crores and in 1973-74, 595 companies with an authorised capital of Rs. 62.0 crores were incorporated in the State of Delhi.

Crude Oil prices in the International Market

960. SHRI B. D. BARMAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that crude oil price in the International market has declined; and
- (b) if so, what benefit will accrue to India on this account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b) The international market prices of crude oil are largely determined by the decisions of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries and by the decisions of the individual oil producing coun-The OPEC have decided to refrain from increasing the posted prices for the third quarter of 1974, but have, however, decided to increase the rate of royalty wherever applicable by 2% or alternatively to increase the Government take by an equivalent amount effective as of 1st July 1974. This increase has ostensibly been made to absorb excessive profits of oil companies.

2. Reports from some quarters however indicate that there is a declining trend in spot prices. It is difficult and too early to say at this stage how firm these indications are and a watch is being maintained.

Decrease in passenger traffic

- 961. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been a decrease in the passenger traffic

^{†[]} English translation.